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PUBLIC ADDRESSES

By

W. P. WHITSETT

Commissioner of Public Service

Chairman of the Board of Directors

of

Metropolitan Water District

ADDRESS BY W. P. WHITSETT BEFORE
CALIFORNIA REAL ESTATE ASSOCIATION 15th. DISTRICT
CONFERENCE AT GLENDALE MARCH 10, 1928.

We are entering upon an epic of travel, heralded by the remarkable feats of Col. Lindbergh, by the construction of great national highway systems, and by the reduction of running time by our transcontinental railways -- accomplishments which reflect the spirit of the times.

The whole nation is on the move, and that move is westward. Since time began the course of civilization has been westward, but never in our history has that move_ment been as rapid as in the last quarter century -- and it is only now gathering its real mementum.

Less than 8½% of the 120,000,000 people living in the United States reside on the Pacific Coast, which is the most comfortable and economical part of the country to live in. Over 500,000 tourists visit California each year, and more than 10% of this number remain as permanent residents. The population of California is increased by tourists alone, more than 50,000 annually, and no class profits more by this influx than the real estate men.

The ever-increasing number of people that are moving westward will find California the most desirable place on the Pacific Coast. By reason of its climate, they will find Southern California the fastest-growing section. They will find Los Angeles the best and most prosperous portion of Southern California, and I don't need to argue why.

They will find the San Fernando Valley the "Better-half", the "Brightest" spot in the Los Angeles White Spot, because San Fernando Valley is the "watering hole" of the Southland, by reason of the Owens River Acqueduct water, the comparative high average rainfall on the floor of the Valley in addition to the runoff from over 500 square miles of mountainous water shed surrounding the Valley where the rainfall is much greater., Much of this runoff will soon by conserved by the Pacoima Dam, now nearing completion and we must now turn our attention to the construction of a dam in the Big Tujunga. And in conjunction with it, there is an excellent proposal

to transform the Tujunga Wash into a park and playground, with municipal golf courses, bridle paths and recreational features for the pleasure of all the people of the whole City of Los Angeles. This park should provide ample spreading basins to sink this water when gradually released from control reservoirs into the gravels to be used in time of greatest need, thus converting the least desirable land of the Valley into a beauty spot which would aid in conserving water and greatly enhance adjacent values.

Much of Los Angeles' second million population is going to settle in San Fernando Valley because of available water, but this water must be kept in garden agricultural use until needed for domestic purposes. There is no other way to hold this water in reserve for growth.

California, South of the Tehachapi, embraces 20% of the area fitted for human habitation, but only a little more than 1% of the State's waters, exclusive of the Colorado River, are tributary thereto.

On the other hand, by the end of 1928, more than 50% of the population of the entire State will be living in Southern California, with only 1% of the State's tributary waters to support it.

In the face of these facts, we don't sell land, we sell water, There is little land in Southern California which we could afford to pay taxes on without knowing there will be water available to put the parcels to the ultimate economic use to which they are best adopted. If it is water that we are selling, instead of land, then let us get busy and get more water. The Boulder Canyon Dam must be started now, if our present rate of growth is not retarded ten years hence on account of water shortage.

Suggestions for a

F U T U R E P O L I C Y

By the City of Los Angeles in Owens Valley submitted by Commissioner W. P. Whitsett to the Board of Water & Power Commissioners, City of Los Angeles, October 2, 1928

A tremendous responsibility rests with the Department of Water and Power in the solution of Los Angeles' water and power problems in Owens Valley. Certain decisions that we will make during the next few months will be a great determining factor in the city's immediate growth and prosperity.

Water is the key, with which we can unlock new flood-gates of incoming industry and population.

I would like other members of this board to visit the mountain streams tumbling down into Owens Valley, as I have done, and view the lakes where water has been equated by the Southern Sierras Power Company. I want you to see the other lakes and the possibilities they offer, if this department were free to bring about the full equation of water flow and power development in that section.

It is not my intention to present a fully worked out plan of procedure that could be applied as a thumb-nail rule to the entire Owens Valley situation, but rather to offer certain fundamental suggestions as to the general policy of the department, with the hope that, out of the deliberation and discussion of these proposals, a permanent and thoroughly practicable policy may evolve:

I believe youtwill feel as I do, that:

First: We acquire the balance of water-bearing land in Owens Valley, of use to the City of Los Angeles, on the same basis of price as heretofore paid.

(a) Because of our immense holdings in Owens Valley it is vitally necessary for us to have a free hand, unhampered by interests that might harass us at every turn of the way. Only by purchasing these small holdings can we accomplish this, and satisfy those who still desire to sell.

(b) At present we have enough water to fill our acqueduct, but the margin of safety is all too small, since the property values of our entire city are dependent upon the deliverance of this water. We should have a reserve of at least 25%.

Second: That we procure an option from the Southern Sierras and associated companies on all of their water, and on the Bishop Creek and Owens River gorge properties, and on any other power developed or to be developed on streams flowing into Owens Valley, with the understanding that we are to have complete control of all water flow,

all power locations on streams flowing into Owens Valley, and all Owens Valley distributing systems, so that the City may be in undisputed control of Owens Valley power, light and water.

(a) As long as the Associated Companies are operating in the Owens Valley their interests will be adverse to the interests of our department. This may be an opportune time to buy them out that we may have complete control of the water equation in Owens Valley.

(b) With the return of more bountiful precipitation and the installation of the Colorado River acqueduct as a "stand-by" or emergency supply, it will be possible to utilize much more water from the Owens Valley than at present, using the maximum run-off in those flush periods and depending upon pumping from the Colorado in the dry cycles.

(c) Bringing of additional water into Owens Valley will enhance the value of Owens Valley Land, owned by the City of Los Angeles. This increase in value would be inevitable if more water were available for agriculture.

(d) If we do not secure these remaining water rights in Mono and Inyo Counties, they are apt to be secured by others. If other interests acquire them we will again be in jeopardy of encroachment and in much the same situation as before making our Owens Valley land purchases.

(e) We may even find it practicable and highly desirable to enlarge the present capacity of the Los Angeles acqueduct, or even duplicate it, to bring additional water, available during the flush run-off periods to Los Angeles, on account of its superior qualities and because of the power it will generate.

Third: That we contract for a page advertisement in one paper in each of the four Owens Valley towns, copy for which will be furnished by our department.

(a) Newspapers are a considerable factor in building good will and moulding public opinion. These advertisements would give us an opportunity to carry the message of the department and what it is endeavoring to do for the development of Owens Valley.

Fourth: That we immediately purchase a suitable cabin airplane to make necessary trips into Owens Valley.

(a) By extending invitations to officials of the Chamber of Commerce, newspaper men and influential citizens to accompany our representatives to Owens Valley by airplane we could convey a general idea of what the department is undertaking, so that when important bond issues are before the voters they would have a better understanding of same.

Fifth: That we give serious thought to the suggestion of certain Inyo and Mono County residents that a majority of the voters of those counties might favor annexation to the City of Los Angeles in order to avail themselves of our water, power and light rates, our voting strength, in securing roads and other improvements, representation in our City Council and many other advantages that would accrue from such a political alliance.

(a) A plan might be worked out through the borough or some other system, whereby these counties could maintain their present low tax rates and political independence and still form an alliance with the City of Los Angeles.

(b) By these additional purchases and the development program that would logically follow in Owens Valley, we would have a complete answer to the claims for reparation. With this additional water in reserve we could approach the Colorado River problem with more deliberation. It may be of tremendous advantage to be in a position where we will not have to be hurried by acute water needs into alliances detrimental to the best interests of the city. These two considerations alone may amount to more than the amount of money now involved in these purchases.

(c) Los Angeles in a political alliance with the people of Owens Valley co-operating together could make of Inyo and Mono Counties the greatest recreational park in the world, the accomplishment of which would create more real value, both here and there, than is now invested in the Power and Water departments of the city, combined.

(d) In my opinion, property is at its low ebb in Owens Valley. There can be little doubt that the future will bring a great military highway from the ammunition storage plant in Nevada, through Owens Valley to the harbor at San Pedro. The railroad will be broad-guaged, there will be a highway from Canada through the Valley to Mexico. Transcontinental and international travel of the future, both by auto, airplane and rail, will pour through Owens Valley.

In conclusion, an old adage comes to mind, that EXPECTATION IS GREATER THAN REALIZATION. Southern California will awaken to the truth of this old saying, when hundreds of thousands of new residents flock to the Southland in expectation of the prosperity that will follow the completion of the Boulder Canyon Dam and the Colorado River acqueduct.

The influx of population will be greater during the years preceding the completion of the project than in the years following, in my opinion. The great problem that faces us is: CARING FOR THE WATER AND POWER NEEDS OF THE HUNDREDS OF THOUSANDS THAT WILL COME TO CALIFORNIA IN EXPECTATION OF THE PROSPERITY ERA THAT WILL FOLLOW THE OPENING OF THE COLORADO RIVER ACQUEDUCT.

Friday - December 28, 1928

No. 10891 (1928)

The Clerk read the following Message from the Mayor:

I beg to advise you that I have this day, subject to your confirmation, appointed John R. Richards a member of the Board of Directors of the Metropolitan Water District, and I certify that in my opinion he is especially qualified by reason of training and experience for the work which shall devolve upon him, and that I make the appointment solely in the interest of the City.

John R. Richards is a member of the Board of Water and Power Commissioners of the City of Los Angeles.

Referred to the Water and Power Committee.

No. 10892 (1928)

The Clerk read the following message from the Mayor:

I beg to advise you that I have this day, subject to your confirmation, appointed William P. Whitsett a member of the Board of Directors of the Metropolitan Water District, and I certify that in my opinion he is especially qualified by reason of training and experience for the work which shall devolve upon him, and that I make the appointment solely in the interest of the City.

William P. Whitsett is a member of the Board of Water and Power Commissioners of the City of Los Angeles.

Referred to the Water and Power Committee.

No. 10893 (1928)

The Clerk read the following Message from the Mayor:

I beg to advise you that I have this day, subject to your confirmation, appointed Doctor John R. Haynes a member of the Board of Directors of the Metropolitan Water District, and I certify that in my opinion he is especially qualified by reason of training and experience for the work which shall devolve upon him, and that I make the appointment solely in the interest of the city.

Dr. John R. Haynes is a member of the Board of Water and Power Commissioners of the City of Los Angeles.

Referred to the Water and Power Committee.

No. 10894 (1928)

The Clerk read the following Message from the Mayor:

I beg to advise you that I have this day, subject to your confirmation, appointed Joseph Mesmer a member of the Board of Directors of the Metropolitan Water District, and I certify that in my opinion he is especially qualified by reason of training and experience for the work which shall devolve upon him, and that I make the appointment solely in the interest of the City.

Joseph Mesmer is President of the St. Louis Fire Brick and Clay Company.

Referred to the Water and Power Committee.

No. 10895 (1928)

The Clerk read the following Message from the Mayor:

I beg to advise you that I have this day, subject to your confirmation, appointed Max E. Socha a member of the Board of Directors of the Metropolitan water District, and I certify that in my opinion he is especially qualified by reason of training and experience for the work which shall devolve upon him, and that I make the appointment solely in the interest of the city.

Max E. Socha is Vice-President of the National Bank of Commerce.

Referred to the Water and Power Committee.

No. 10896 (1928)

The Clerk read the following Message from the Mayor:

I beg to advise you that I have this day, subject to your confirmation, appointed Dwight H. Hart a member of the Board of Directors of the Metropolitan Water District, and I certify that in my opinion he is especially qualified by reason of training and experience for the work which shall devolve upon him, and that I make the appointment solely in the interest of the city.

Dwight H. Hart is a member of the firm of Hart Brothers, proprietors of the Hotel Rosslyn.

Referred to the Water and Power Committee.

No. 10897 (1928)

The Clerk read the following Message from the Mayor:

I beg to advise you that I have this day, subject to your confirmation, appointed William E. Byrne a member of the Board of Directors of the Metropolitan Water District, and I certify that in my opinion he is especially qualified by reason of training and experience for the work which shall devolve upon him, and that I make the appointment solely in the interest of the city.

William E. Byrne is Assemblyman from the Sixty-sixth District.

Referred to the Water and Power Committee.

No. 10898 (1928)

The Clerk read the following Message from the Mayor:

I beg to advise you that I have this day, subject to your confirmation, appointed J. A. McNaughton a member of the Board of Directors of the Metropolitan Water District, and I certify that in my opinion he is especially qualified by reason of training and experience for the work which shall devolve upon him, and that I make the appointment solely in the interest of the city.

Mr. J. A. McNaughton is Vice-President & General Manager of the Los Angeles Union Stock Yards.

Referred to the Water and Power Committee.

No. 10899 (1928)

The Clerk read the following Message from the Mayor:

I beg to advise you that I have this day, subject to your confirmation, appointed Will E. Keller a member of the Board of Directors of the Metropolitan Water District, and I certify that in my opinion he is especially qualified by reason of training and experience for the work which shall devolve upon him, and that I make the appointment solely in the interest of the city.

Will E. Keller is a member of the Board of Water and Power Commissioners of the City of Los Angeles.

Referred to the Water and Power Committee.

No. 10900 (1928)

The Clerk read the following message from the Mayor:

I beg to advise you that I have this day, subject to your confirmation, appointed R. F. del Valle a member of the Board of Directors of the Metropolitan Water District, and I certify that in my opinion he is especially qualified by reason of training and experience for the work which shall devolve upon him, and that I make the appointment solely in the interest of the city.

R. F. del Valle is a member of the Board of Water and Power Commissioners of the City of Los Angeles.

Referred to the Water and Power Committee.

Nos. 10891 to 10900 Inc. (1928)

The Water and Power Committee reported as follows:

Your Committee recommends in connection with the appointments submitted by the Mayor, to act on the Board of Directors of the Metropolitan Water District, that the following persons be confirmed: John R. Richards, Doctor John R. Haynes, and William P.Whitsett.

Your Committee further recommends that the balance of the names submitted by the Mayor be not confirmed.

Mr. Hall moved, seconded by Mr. Jacobson that the report as read be adopted, the rules suspended and said appointments confirmed.

Mr. Hall addressed the Council and explained the provisions of the Metropolitan Water District Act, particularly in regard to the number of representatives allowed the City of Los Angeles and other cities in the district, and stated that the Committee did not feel that they or the Council would want to assume the responsibility of placing the destiny of this branch of the City's development in the hands of ten men at this time, for the reason that three members would have the same voting strength as ten members, and that the three names recommended in the report for confirmation were men who were familiar with the water problems of the City of Los Angeles.

After discussion by members of the Council, the President instructed the Clerk to call the roll.

Upon calling the roll, said motion was adopted by the following vote: Ayes: Messrs., Alber, Colden, Davis, Foster, Hall, Hughes, Ingram, Jacobson, Lewis, McAllister, Martin, Randall, Sanborn, and President Bonelli (14). Noes: none.

Mr. Hall moved, seconded by Mr. Jacobson, that the appointment of John R. Richards a member of the Board of Directors of the Metropolitan Water District be confirmed.

Which motion was adopted and the appointment confirmed by the following vote: Ayes: Messrs., Alber, Colden, Davis, Foster, Hall, Hughes, Ingram, Jacobson, Lewis, McAllister, Martin, Randall, Sanborn, and President Bonelli (14). Noes: none.

Mr. Hall moved, seconded by Mr. Jacobson, that the appointment of Dr. John R. Haynes a member of the Board of Directors of the Metropolitan Water District, be confirmed.

Which motion was adopted and the appointment confirmed by the following vote: Ayes: Messrs., Alber, Colden, Davis, Foster, Hall, Hughes, Ingram, Jacobson, Lewis, McAllister, Martin, Randall, Sanborn, and President Bonelli (14). Noes: none.

Mr. Hall moved, seconded by Mr. Jacobson, that the appointment of William P. Whitsett a member of the Board of Directors of the metropolitan Water District, be confirmed.

Which motion was adopted and the appointment confirmed by the following vote: Ayes: Messrs., Alber, Colden, Davis, Foster, Hall, Hughes, Ingram, Jacobson, Lewis, McAllister, Martin, Randall, Sanborn, and President Bonelli (14). Noes: none.

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State of California, } ss.
CITY OF LOS ANGELES.

I, Robt. Dominguez, , City Clerk of the City of Los Angeles, do hereby certify the foregoing to be a full, true and correct copy of a portion of the Minutes of the Council of the City of Los Angeles, of its meeting held December 28, 1928

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the corporate seal of said City, at my office, this 28th day of December, 1928.

ROBT. DOMINGUEZ,
City Clerk of the City of Los Angeles.

By W. W. Browning Deputy.

TALK BY W. P. WHITSETT AT THE ANNUAL BANQUET OF THE

VAN NUYS REALTY BOARD February 7, 1929

The great problem that faces us today is how we are going to care for the water and power needs of hundreds of thousands of persons who are coming to California in expectation of the prosperity era that will follow the opening of the Colorado River Aqueduct.

Expectation is greater than realization. There will be a far greater influx of people into Southern California during the time that the Boulder Canyon Dam and the Colorado River Aqueduct is under construction than immediately after its completion.

No other class of business men will reap a greater profit from this great influx than the realtors of Southern California.

During the next few years, we will not be faced with the problem of how to get new people to Southern California, but rather how we should take care of them--how we should treat them after they get here.

Water is the key with which we can unlock new flood-gates of industry and popolation. Southern California has nearly 50% of the entire population of the State, but the Southland has only about 1% of the tributary water in the whole State (Exclusive of the Colorado River.)

In the face of this tremendous inraod of new residents, it is fitting that I sould a warning that I have given many times before.

San Fernando Valley's nature balanced, carefully adjusted, productive educational, manufacturing and living possibilities can forever be destroyed by the activities of exploiting lot subdividers--by the voting of needless special assessment taxes, and by the raising of land prices to a point where it becomes impossible to produce crops profitably--even by the owner of an intense garden acre home.

These are pitfalls, which we have plainly seen and recognized but which have all too frequently been disregarded during the last few years.

Let us build a community that is prosperous and economically sound--a garden cityof intensively cultivated small farms. Hundreds of thousands of persons who have always had a secret ambition to come to California will take the construction of the Boulder Dam as an excuse to come now. Are we going to make them happy, contented citizens, or are we going to semd them away, like we have sent thousands of other Easterners away--sore, disgruntled because they were stuck with a lot

sold to them under high pressure, at two or three times what it was worth or would bring for years to come.

Are we going to place these new residents on small farms where they can raise their own poultry, vegetables, rabbits, fruit, berries and have their own goat's milk and other food produce, thus conserving the accumulated resources which they have brought with them--permitting them to live under the blue skies of sunny Southern California? Or are we going to cramp them down on a 40 or 50 foot lot, where they will stay until they have consumed their resources and then be compelled to return from whence they came?

Too much of this kind of thing has been done already, and that is just when conditions in San Fernando Valley are not all that they should be--why building permits have shown a decrease during the last two years, instead of an increase.

The Colorado River Acqueduct will have a capacity of 1500 second feet of water as compared to the 400 second feet capacity of the Los Angeles Acqueduct. The Colorado River Aqueduct will supply the domestic needs of 7,500.000 people.

Four routes are under consideration for the Colorado River Aqueduct, etc.

.....

In closing let me sound a warning to those who are contemplating the purchase of land with the hope or belief that it will be benefitted by the construction of the Boulder Dam or the Colorado River Aqueduct. There will be no water for irrigation use made available from the Colorado River Aqueduct. It will be used entirely as domestic water supply for the Coastal Plain of Southern California.

All public lands available for future irrigation along the lower Colorado River have been withdrawn from entry and when opened for settlement, will be offered first to United States War veterans.

Those who contemplate purchases in the Colorado River District would study a government map and ascertain whether or not the land being considered will permit of economical development.

TALK BY W. P. [illegible]TSETT AT THE ANNUAL BANQUE[illegible] OF THE

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Four routes are under consideration for the Colorado River Aqueduct, etc.

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Those who contemplate purchases in the Colorado River District would study a government map and ascertain whether or not the land being considered will permit of economical development.

FEBRUARY 25, 1929.

By W. P. WHITSETT

(Chairman of Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, Commissioner of Water & Power of the City of Los Angeles.)

Aqueducts, ancient and modern, in the arid lands bordering the Mediteranean, stand as monuments to civilization's recorded advance. Culture and achievement have been cradled and nurtured in lands of little rain where men struggled for positions in the sun.

Our Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, is organized to blaze the trail into newer regions on a greater scale--for this more wonderful civilization that we now enjoy. Industry, science and progress have substituted motors for slaves and placed implements in our hands which make easy the construction of these greater works, at least as durable as those of the ancients. History tells us that the Greek water works were much inferior to the Roman.

Sextus Julius Frontinus appointed water commissioner in Rome in 97 A. D., in discussing the aqueducts of Rome, wrote the following:

"The necessity of repairs arises from the following reasons: Damage is done either by the lawlessness of abutting proprietors, by age, by violent storms, by defects in the original construction, and has happened quite frequently in recent works.

"As a rule those parts of the aqueducts which are carried on arches or are placed on side-hills and of those on arches, the parts that cross rivers, suffer most from the effects of age or of violent storms. These therefore must be put in order with care and dispatch. The underground portions, not being subjected to either heat or frost are less liable to injury. Defects are either of the sort that can be remedied without stopping the flow of water, or such as cannot be made without diverting the flow, as, for example, those which have to be made in the channel itself.

"The suitable time for masonry work is from April 1, to November 1, but with this restriction, that the work would best be interrupted during the hottest part of the summer because moderate weather is necessary for the masonry properly to absorb the mortar, and to solidify into one compace mass; for excessive heat of the sun is no less destructive then frost to masonry. Honesty in all details of the work must be insisted upon."

Can we not here at the start let it be distinctly understood and the principle be firmly maintained that no element of political frailty, or incompetancy be allowed to obstruct the most superior work of them all--the Colorado River Aqueduct?

Our ancient forebears, back hundreds of years before the start of the Christian Era made pipes of lead, hollow wood, and hollowed stone. Without the engineering instruments based on optical glass, they built aqueducts. Some of their works have endured to this day through the turmoils of wars, earthquakes and erosion.

We will cross desert and canyon, and tunnel through mountains of solid rock to bring a river of life to this Coastal Plain.

The Colorado River aqueduct will have a capacity of 1500 second feet of water as compared to the 400 second feet capacity of the Los Angeles aqueduct. The Colorado River aqueduct will supply the domestic needs of 7,500,000 people, who will bring with them and create over Ten Billion Dollars in assessable wealth, in much shorter time than we anticipate.

Four routes are under consideration for the Colorado River aqueduct. I submit here a few brief figures about each of the routes under consideration:

1. The Blythe Route.

Distance	259 miles,
Approximate lift	1630 feet,
Longest tunnel	27 miles,
Next Longest tunnel	5 miles.

2. Bridge Canyon Gravity Route:

Distance	372 miles,
Longest tunnel	80 miles,
Next longest tunnel	72 miles.

3. Black Canyon Route:

Distance	343 miles,
Approximate lift	1730 feet,
Longest tunnel	20 miles,
Next longest tunnel	15 miles.

4. Picacho Route:

Distance	243 miles,
Lift	1580 feet,
Longest tunnel	27 miles,
Next longest tunnel	6 miles,

The cost of construction on the most favorable route is estimated at about $150,000,000. The Colorado River aqueduct will be by far the largest aqueduct in the world. The per capita cost of contructing the Colorado River aqueduct will be about $100 per capita based on our present population.

On the other hand, the Los Angeles aqueduct cost approximately $150 per capita based on the population of Los Angeles at the time of its constuction.

Much has been said about the cost of electrical energy for pumping water ofer the Picacho or Blythe routes, and I would like to give some carefully compiled figures that will help to clear up this point.

With the cost of power at Boulder Dam at 3 mills and with the additional cost of transmission lines together with interest, carrying charges and amortization, it will cost about 2 cents per 100 cubic feet for all pumping necessary on either the Picacho or Blythe Route.

The per capita consumption of water in Los Angeles is 125 gallons per day, or less than 17 cubic feet per person. With these figures as a basis, engineers estimate that it will cost three mills per day per person to lift the water from the Colorado River to Los Angeles, less than 10¢ per month or about $1 per capita per year.

No body of men ever faced a more basic work--no body of men ever faced as deep a responsibility to their State, to their families and to posterity.

The Romans so built their aqueducts that several of them are in use to this day. We Californians have already built the Los Angeles aqueduct, the greatest engineering work of its kind in the world. We built it within the estimated time and within the estimated cost. It is now meeting successfully the purpose for which it was constructed.

Backed by our experience in this undertaking, we are prepared to go forward with confidence in the construction of the greatest aqueduct of all time--a work that should stand, almost until the curtain of time rolls back. Benefits will accrue to generation after generation and the beneficence should be widespread upon the coastal plain.

Paved highways, automobiles and airplanes have made outlying territories easily accessible to centers of population. The water of the Colorado River aqueduct will help in the diffusion of population over Southern California.

This undertaking is a challenge to each of us. We should meet it unselfishly with a desire to serve. Never before has there been an opportunity to build so great an empire in the same length of time, where so many determining factors can be known.

AN ADEQUATE WATER SUPPLY AND ECONOMIC PROGRESS ARE SYNONOMOUS, INSEPARABLE TERMS.-

Inadequate water supply-and stagnation and desolation are also inseparable companions.

Six years ago the City of Omaha was partially out of water for a few days.

A panic of fear arose.

The City of San Francisco burned to the ground when the earthquake temporarily disabled her water system.

We of Los Angeles are an exotic people coming here mostly from humid climates.

In this semi-arid land the hot breath of the Desert seeks to wither vegetation and the salts of the Ocean seek to corrode it.

It is an entente alliance which men must cope with.

Two ominous events,-one in Central California, the other nearby us, have transpired that should make us wholly alert to the subject of our local water problems.

It should bring forward the best men with the best brains of the city, willing and ready to serve as they would if their own and their neighbors' homes were burning down.

Due to the constant lowering of the under-ground waters in Southern California, salt water has already seeped into the vacuum and rendered unfit for use many wells which are a mile back from the ocean at El Segundo.

The original artesian wells bored in the vicinity of Long Beach a generation ago and upon which that city depends for water, originally spurted 60 feet above the surface of the ground, while today they are being pumped from a standing water table 50 feet below the surface. This is a drop of 110 feet.

Into this constantly increasing vacuum between sea-level and the surface of the fresh water level of the coastal plane, the corroding salts of the ocean are inexorably seeping and creeping.

Necessity impels Pasadena to divert from the San Gabriel River 30,000 acres feet of flood storm water. The San Gabriel River is the source of the supply for the water basins behind Long Beach and other lower towns, hence legal controversies that will prove bad advertising- have arisen.

Near San Francisco a broader movement of the Ocean salts has occured.

On the Northern arm of that harbor upon the Carquinez Straits and the broad Suisun Bay, many towns and a number of large industries were located. The waters were kept fresh by the flow of the Sacramento and San Joaquin Rivers.

The memory of man cannot recall when those waters were not heretofore fresh.

Population and agricultural development of the upper valley's diverted the flows of those rivers so that in 1924 the salt water from San Francisco had penetrated 26 miles further inland than ever known before.

No great additional development has taken place in that region since.

Established industries existed by means of tank barges bringing down from the upper river two and one-half million gallons of water daily, at a cost of 50 cents or more a thousand gallons. Water rates were multiplied a thousand per cent.

Several small cities suffered from the conditions at the cost of the stagnation of industrial progress and a raise of domestic water from ten cents to $1.00 per hundred cubic feet.

Thousands of acres of the richest agricultural land in the world; viz: the delta islands of those rivers, began to deteriorate from the inflow of salt.

History presents to the eye of the archaeologist spectacular pictures of destruction from drouth too numerous to mention here.

We all remember the story of Bible times when one warrior in the Mesopotania area diverted the water from the canals and river channels and marched in the dry river beds under the walls of the city in his work of distruction.

We are not suffering a crisis in Southern California.

But- a crisis surely impends.

I am impelled to these remarks in the spirit of the old family doctor to the patient with a surplus of energy and a lack of strength.

Picture the panic of fear that occured in Omaha by a shut-off of the water fro a few whole days!-

Imagine that condition in any city of major size!- The roads from the city would be jammed with fleeing inhabitants and the fires of distruction would consume what remained.

Picture a city in an arid land where highways could be choked with fleeing inhabitants without water even for their radiators. Picture the mountainous passes and the desert high ways blocked under the movement of such a group.

Build a picture of any important ocean front city waking up to find that Salt had seeped back into the vacuum caused by the lowering of the underground fresh water tables.

Happily Los Angeles has no such immediate possibility.

Happily we have enough water with moderate expansion, but without annexation or normal progress,- for a ten-year period.

But this foundation is all together too slim.

We are making use of every water source available. There can now be no sense of human security or financial safety without the increased supply from the Colorado water shed and a supply for 25 years ahead, because the phantom of insufficient water is casting its shadow on future transactions.

I would hesitate to emphasize these fundamental facts were the crisis not all together too near and the solution of it happily provided for in the enactment of the Boulder Dam Legislation.

It is not a question that can longer be discussed in chambers. It is known throughout the financial and industrial world.

A recent article in the Saturday Evening Post entitled "Thirsty Cities", stated very plainly to all who could read that the water plane under the whole five counties of Southern California was rapidly falling, which meant that the 31 of our southland cities were depleting their underground water reserves from which comes the largest part of their local supply.

And next to the air we breathe, is the water we drink.

While the facts are by no means a desirable type of publicity, yet we are comforted in the fact that the legislative solution of the problem has been completely provided. All that is required is the forward confident, vigorous action for which Southern California has ever been noted.

In addition to the passage of the Boulder Dam legislation providing funds by the Federal Government, we have all necessary legislation in the form of the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California. In this district are already united Eleven of our Southern Cities, pepresenting 65 per cent of the population and wealth of the Southland.

Surveys and studies have been made and revised.

A board of consulting engineers has been selected by the Metropolitan Water District, consisting of three of the most eminent men in the engineering profession, based on their experience in great National and world-wide prbjects.

This board of consulting engineers is comprised entirely of men outside of the State, and their duty will be to select a route that is physicallly practical upon the basis of the soundest economic principal.

The personnel is as follows:

I master all fear that the Colorado River project can be much delayed or injured by the carping criticism of publicity-seeking engineers or factions working for self-aggrandizement.

The representatives of eleven cities, bound together in the Metropolitan Water District, to make sound our common economic structure, have provided this eminent dis-interested umpire Commission of distinquished National engineers and has empowered them with the responsibility of the choice of the route of the acquaduct which will convey the waters from the dam in the desert to the coastal regions.

When the routei is decided in such manner the matter will be laid before the people of the district in a bond election to carry it thru. Wherefore, it is plain that the issues of the pumping lifts, gravity flows and tunnels should be addressed thru normal channels, to the commission of outside engineers who are charged with the responsibility thereof.

Neither singly or collectively could the members of the Board of the Metropolitan Water District be responsible; such a technical decision and the plan adopted is a sure basis for the hope that the waters of the Colorado River will at an early date flow into the water mains of these cities of Southern California, free from anguish by delay or loss by any incompetence of opinion.

Obviously, any attempt to becloud the people's mind by perverted controversies of these intricate engineering questions of route would become perfectly transparent upon casual examination, of the individual or corporate interest so selfish that it could not subscribe to these broad plans of an outside dis-interested commission of nationally renowned engineers.

Speaking for the protection of my associates upon the Board of this Metropolitan Water District, I take the liberty now and believe it the duty of my office, to discuss each occasion plainly and candidly with all the folks whose homes and happiness are dependent upon this work.

In this question of route selection a gravity flow canal would mean scores of millions of dollars expended in supplies for pipes, cement and other construction material.

Contrariwise, a route involving pumping and lifting would mean millions of dollars expenditures by private business and manufacturers for dynamos and other pumping equipment.

Past history is the basis of my faith that all these commercial contentions will be hushed in the traditional spirit of old Los Angeles. With water, every citizen, every commercial factor must be on tiptoes to thwart and silence private gains.

Real estate will fluctuate in localities based upon route decisions.

Los Angeles has indeed been fortunate in having her public project monies spent wisely and desired results achieved. In the histories of American communities this has not always been the case. We do not have to go far afield to see the spectacle of a great metropolis which has voted money for outside water supply twice, and the delivery of which, thru engineering financial and political difficulties has not yet been made.

This is the fulcrum of the whole Colorado River project, for the Metropolitan Water District and the Municipal units comprised thereof.

What WILL we ?

There are now seven vacancies existing on the Metropolitan Water Board which are subject to appointment by the Mayor of Los Angeles.

Will our big, outstanding men of business and financial experience accept the call to this greatest public service without pay and/with some possible abuse from malignant, selfish interests?

Will the executive boards of our largest enterprises allow Mayor Porter to draft their biggest men whose names will insure a repetition of the first aequaduct success and anchor the faith of the people of this area to their hopes and prayers for a continued progress.

Mayor Porter may be depended upon to make the right choice, but is he to be restricted and hampered by the latter day idea that big men are too busy to do anything for the public service?

These seven new appointments will constitute the balance of control in the board.

My fellow directors on the board of this momentous undertaking have the right to expect that Los Angeles, of her biggest and most experienced men, will give her best and not leave the Mayor Hobson's choice of self-seekers and aggrandisement planner.

I am pained to hear and discouraged to know of some who declined when asked.

I wish that the Mayor would just select the seven men who ought to help safeguard and insure this foundation of community progress- issue the list and then everybody take the 'phone and pledge your support and aid.

ADDRESS BY W. P. WHITSETT

(Commissioner of Water & Power of Los Angeles, and director of the Metropolitan Water District, at the annual meeting of the Van Nuys Realty Board)

We are facing the tremendous task of bring water from the Colorado River to Los Angeles, but almost as important an undertaking is the bringing of cheap industrial power to furnish employment for the hundreds of thousandsof persons who are coming to California in expectation of the prosperity era that will follow the opening of the Colorado River Aqueduct.

Expectation is greater at the start than realization. There will be a far greater influx of people into Southern California during the time that the Boulder Canyon Dam and the Colorado River Aqueduct are under construction than immediately after their completion.

No other class of business men will reap a greater profit from this influx than the realtors of Southern California.

During the next few years we will not be faced with the problem of how to get new people to Southern California, but rather how we should take care of them--what we shall put them to work at after they get here.

Water and cheap industrial power are the keys with which we can unlock new flood-gates of population and industry. Southern California has nearly 50% of the entire population of the State, but the same territory has only about 1% of the tributary water of the State (exclusive of the Colorado River.)

In the face of this new incoming population, I wish to sound again a warning that I have given before.

San Fernando Valley is nature balanced, but our carefully adjusted educational, manufacturing and living conditions can be irreparably injured by the activities of exploiting lot subdividers--by the voting of needless special assessment taxes, and by the raising of land prices to a point where it becomes impossible to produce crops profitably--

even by the owners of intensive acre gardens.

These are pitfalls, which we have plainly seen and recognized, but which have all too frequently been disregarded during the last few years.

Let us build a community that must be prosperous because we make it economically sound--a garden city of intensively cultivated small farms.

Hundreds of thousands of persons who have always had a secret ambition to come to California will take the construction of the Boulder Dam as an excuse to come now. Are we going to make them happy, contented citizens, drawing their friends to our garden valley? Or are we going to send them away like we have sent thousands of other Easterners away from Southern California--sore, disgruntled because they were stuck with a useless lot, sold to them under high pressure, at two or three times what it was worth, or would bring for years to come.

Shall we not place these new residents on small farms where they can raise their own poultry, vegetables, rabbits, fruit, berries and other food products, thus conserving the accumulated resources which they have brought with them? Or are we going to cramp them down on a 40 or 50 foot lot, where they will stay until they have consumed their resources and then be compelled to return from whence they came if no permanent employment can be secured?

The Colorado River Aqueduct will have a capacity of 1500 second feet of water as compared to the 400 second feet capacity of the Los Angeles Aqueduct. The Colorado River aqueduct will supply the domestic needs of 7,500.000 people.

Four routes are under consideration for the Colorado River Aqueduct. I have gathered a few brief figures about each of the Routes under consideration and present them to you as follows:

1. The Blythe Route.
   - Distance ---------- 259 miles
   - Approximate lift ----1630 feet.
   - Longest Tunnel ------ 27 miles.
   - Next longest tunnel - 5 miles.

2. Bridge Conyon Gravity Route.
   - Distance---------- 372 miles.
   - Longest Tunnel 80 miles
   - Next longest tunnel-- 72 miles

3. Black Canyon Route.
   Distance---------- 343 miles
   Approximate lift ----- 1730 feet.
   Longest Tunnel ------- 20 miles.
   Next longest tunnel--- 15 miles.

4. Picacho Route.
   Distance---------- 243 miles.
   Lift ---------- 1580 feet.
   Longest tunnel ------- 27 miles.
   Next longest tunnel --- 6 miles.

The cost of construction on the most favorable route is estimated at about $150,000.000.00. The Colorado River Aqueduct will be by far the largest aqueduct in the world. The per capita cost of constructing the Colorado River Aqueduct will be about $100.00 per capita based on our present population. On the other hand, the Los Angeles Aqueduct cost approximately $150.00 per capita based on the population of Los Angeles at the time that it was built.

Much has been said about the cost of electrical energy for pumping the water over the Picacho lift or over the Blythe Route, and I would like to give some carefully compiled figures that will help to clear up this point.

With the cost of power at Boulder Dam as 3 mills and with the additional cost of transmission lines together with interest, carrying charges and amortization, it will cost approximately ~~less~~ than 2 cents per 100 cubic feet for all pumping necessary on either the Pichacho or Blythe Route.

The per capita consumption of water in Los Angeles is 125 gallons per day, or less than 17 cubic feet per person. In other words it will cost about three mills per day per person to lift the water from Boulder Dam to Los Angeles.

In closing let me say to those who are contemplating the purchase of land with the hope or belief that it will be benefitted by the construction of the Boulder Dam or the Colorado River Aqueduct, there will be no water for irrigation use made available from the Colorado River Aqueduct. It will be used entirely as a domestic water supply for the cities of the Coastal Plain of Southern California.

All public lands available for future irrigation along the lower Colorado River have been withdrawn from entry and when opened for settlement, will be offered to the United States War veterans first.

The magnitude of these projects and the appeal of new irrigation for wild land could easily be made the foundation for another speculative spree, such as was recently experienced in Florida, and the like of which occurred here in California in 1888.

California of today is conservative and Boom Proof. We showed this by the automatic slowing down of our exciting land expansions following the War, and thanks to the Realtor Organizations, we have a State Commissioner with both power and gumption.

Warnings have been issued by the State of California, and only the very gullible who disregard these warnings will suffer from the fake promotions that attempt to feed upon the real Boulder Dam developments.

Our communities are interlaced, one with the other by paved highways, railroads, telephone and telegraph lines, and innumerable intimacies of commercial activity.

It should be the aim and desire of each of us to strengthen this interlacing by concrete conduits, iron and rivited steel mains through which should flow the water from the Colorado River at the earliest practicable moment, to the end that all might shre in the general prosperity and wealth to be created on the Coastal Plain of Southern California by the very life blood of our growth and industry here--WATER.

MEN:--

400 Section feet of water has made it possible for almost One and One-half Million people to make their homes in Los Angeles. Their assessed wealth is near two billion dollars.

The Colorado River Acqueduct, when built, will have a capacity of 1500 Section feet of water--sufficient for the domestic needs of 7,500,-000 more people. They will have and create $10,000.000.000 worth of assessable wealth in much shorter time than any of us anticipated on account of the excelleration of these three factors: Anticipation, adding hand. Speeding up of Travel, and the ever increasing desire of humanity to find its place in the Sun.

The laws of Economics is pretty generally applicable to the different organizims of industries and communities. It is a matter of Constructive thinking. MEN--MOTORS--MATERIAL--MARKETS AND MONEY. If these are properly cyncronized, profitable industry can be greatly increased here. Resulting in a happy contented citizenship living in comfort amid ideal surroundings under the warm blue sky of California.

Never before in the history of the world has there been such an opportunity to build so great an empire in the same length of time, where so many determining factors can be known.

This opportunity should be a challenge to each of us. It should be met unselfishly with a desire to serve.

If our splendid Government is to endure--If our civilization is to carry on--If our loved ones are to enjoy the fruits of our labors in the years to come, then the men of thought and action today will have to give more attention to the cheapening of the necessities of life, which enter into our standards of living, for all.

CheapElectricity for large industrial consumers will be one of the main corner stones in this empire of the future. If we were to broaden our vision and properly appraise the indirect beneficial results to all, ways could be found anticipating the benefits of the Boulder Canyon Dam, so we could take full advantage now of the additional water and cheap power for industrial purposes. Creating additional wealth to help defray the expense of this great undertaking, and putting the unemployed to work.

Our communities are interlaced one with the other, not only by paved highways, Steel rails, Telephone and telegraph connections, but by the intemacies of innumeral commercial activities, and it should be our united effort to strenghten this interlacing by concrete conduits, iron & steel rivited mains through which will flow the life giving water of the Colorado River at the earliest practicable moment, to the end that all may share in the general prosperity and wealth to be created on this Coastal Plain of Southern California by our life blood of Industry--WATER.

Declaring that official Washington is ready and anxious to push forward actual construction of Boulder Canyon Dam as soon as the Government can secure the necessary contracts for the sale of water and power. President W. P. Whitsett of the Metropolitan Water District board of directors yesterday returned from the National Capital with the message that the next move must be made by the City of Los Angeles.

Mr. Whitsett, who is a member of the Los Angeles Board of Water and Power Commissioners as well as head of the Metropolitan Water District, went to Washington as the official representative of both bodies.

With the view of lending the support of these two bodies to the Federal Government's task of setting underway the Boulder Dam project, Mr. Whitsett, accompanied by W. B. Mathews, General Counsel for the Department of Water and Power Department, called upon President Hoover, Secretary of the Interior Wilbur and Dr. Elwood Mead, Commissioner of Reclamation. Mr. and Mrs. Whitsett also called upon Secretary Mellon and interviewed the head of the Treasury Department on the Colorado River project.

"On every hand I found in official Washington a very sincere interest in the Boulder Dam Project", stated Mr. Whitsett yesterday, following his return to Los Angeles.

"Federal Government officials from the President on down are anxious that the Boulder dam be started at once. But the Boulder dam Act provides that the Government cannot turn a spadeful of dirt on this great project until the Secretary of the Interior holds contracts for power and water sufficient to repay, with interest, within fifty years, the cost of the dam."

"Washington is now looking to the City of Los Angeles for the power and water contracts that must be entered into before work on the dam can start. The only agency in a position to enter into such contracts is the City of Los Angeles."

"Los Angeles needs hydro-electric power from Boulder Dam; this city and neighboring cities in the Metropolitan Water District need domestic water from the Colorado river and power to pump this water. If we want Boulder Dam it is our move."

"Within the next week Secretary Wilbut, Dr.Mead and Chief Engineer Walter of the Reclamation Service will be in Los Angeles ready to negotiate with our Board of Water and Power Commissioners and the Metropolitan Water District. It is to be hoped that actual construction of the great Boulder Dam will be assured while these Federal officials are here."

I appreciate this article as a literary product but it is a little too finished for my regular style of writing. My sentences are usually definite, short, and forceful.

In reading it over these thoughts have occurred to me: We must keep local aggricultural benefits out of the picture and word our statements so that these benefits will accrue to adjoining states, principally Arizona and Nevada. We should stress the employment afforded by these two major projects. The time it will take for construction, cost to the people in comparison with the Owens River Aqueduct.

Secretary Meade said the Boulder Canyon Dam would take 300 cars of material per day for five years. This is a very forceful statement. Could we not quote him and then say the number of cars of material that will have to be handled per day in the excavation for the Colorado River Aqueduct, also the number of cars of liquid cement which will have to be put in place, stressing the great employment of labor used in these two tremendous undertakings.

I wish to bring out vividly that the population is going to more than double during this 12 year period and as the po;ulation we now have made possible all the improvements in the cities now in the Metropolitan Water District the doubling of this population in a large major should be expected to double all these improvements, furnishing such employment and making for such prosperity during this period as few communities have ever experioenced.

I wish especially to stress that the doubling of the popolation on the Coastal Plain will more than double the agricultural requirements from the adjacent states to maintain our food supply here as our products are such as fruits that are not produced in competition. The doubling of this population will mean much more than the doubling of our agricultural food requirements from adjacent states as the local supply is already largely absorbed and does not enter into competition with such food supplies as will be shipped in.

I wish to emphasize that fact that the 45,000 families will be families of means who wish to get away from the congestion of the East bringing with them means which will beautify, add to the employment, and furnish additional markets for the local merchants and the distant agricultural producers.

I would like to cut out any superfluous words so as to shorten the article.

STATEMENT OF W. P. WHITSETT, CHAIRMAN, BOARD OF DIRECTORS, THE METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA MADE BEFORE THE FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE OF THE UNITED STATES SENATE.

Gentlemen:

My distinguished associates, in opposing the ratification of the proposed Mexican Treaty, are presenting to you the legal rights upon which our case is firmly based. They are pointing out the vast economic losses to the United States as a whole which will result from robbing the southwestern states of water required for their defense activities and post-war development in order that Mexico may grow more cotton.

The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, of which I have had the honor of being Chairman since its organization in 1928, will present more of these facts through our general counsel and engineering staff. In the brief time allotted me, I would like to point out one fundamental American principle involved in this treaty which might easily escape the notice of those whose time allows only a casual examination of this vital issue.

Because I know you are as much interested in the human factors involved as in the technical facts, let me sketch briefly the part played by the Metropolitan Water District, which comprises fourteen cities of Southern California, which, with adjacent areas, have three and one-half million inhabitants. When Boulder Dam was a blueprint in Washington, the Government refused to appropriate the $125,000,000 for its construction until assured that the cost of the dam, plus interest on the Government money advanced would be repaid through the sale of power and water made available by the dam. The Government demanded that this repayment be guaranteed by firm contracts. The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California joined with other public and private agencies in California and entered into such contracts with the Government and these communities thus bound themselves to pay for sufficient Boulder Dam hydro-power to satisfy the Government demands.

The Metropolitan Water District, as a matter of fact, bound itself by firm contracts to pay for about 36 per cent of the firm power available at Boulder Dam - and the District agreed to pay for this large amount of hydro-power regardless of whether or not it actually needed or used the power. Thus the construction of Boulder Dam was brought about and made possible.

With construction of the dam thus assured, the people of the California cities which comprise the Metropolitan Water District went forward with plans to finance and build the Colorado River Aqueduct. In September, 1931, the people of these District cities authorized by a majority of five to one a bond issue of $220,000,000 to finance the initial cost of the giant aqueduct system. These bonds are a first mortgage on all of the real assets of the people in the District cities. This heavy obligation was assumed in order to finance the building of an aqueduct of 400 miles in length - an aqueduct which now is carrying water across mountains and desert wastes to supply the ever increasing needs of agriculture, industry and homes and military installations on the semi-arid coastal plain of Southern California.

The job of building the Colorado River Aqueduct included the blasting of 91 miles of 18-foot diameter tunnels through mountain barriers and the building of five huge pumping plants required to raise the water a total of 1600 feet before it can flow by gravity into a terminal reservoir ready for distribution to the industries, defense establishments and homes situated within the territory of the Metropolitan Water District. To operate the aqueduct pumping plants the District required electric power, and it was for this power that the District bound itself to pay for up to 36% of the total firm output from Boulder Dam. The District did not require any such large amount of power in its early days of operation, and still does not require any such quantity of power; but it nevertheless assured the building of Boulder Dam by contracting to pay for this power whether used or not. As a result of these contracts between the Metropolitan Water District and the Government, the District thus far has paid out more than $4,500,000 to the United States Government for Boulder Dam power which neither the District nor anyone else has ever used. This $4,500,000 has come out of the pockets of the taxpayers of the 14 cities constituting the District.

In meeting this heavy obligation our people have never faltered. We had made that kind of a contract with the United States in order to bring about the building of Boulder Dam. We had absolute confidence in the good faith of our Government to fulfill its end of the contracts, and we were willing to wait and to continue paying this high premium for insurance for our future protection. Our first reward has been the great satisfaction of having this large surplus of electric power ready and waiting to serve and activate the giant war industries and military installations which became so

vitally essential in Southern California when the massacre at Pearl Harbor plunged this country into war. Our people have paid dearly for the guarantee we made to our Government in Washington to assure the repayment of the cost of Boulder Dam but we will never regret the price we are paying if our Government honestly fulfils its end of the contract to make available to our people the Colorado River water essential to our region in all the years ahead. I have spoken of the heavy obligation that has been assumed by the communities within our Metropolitan Water District to bring about the construction of Boulder Dam. Please allow me to speak for only a few moments regarding the financing of the Colorado River Aqueduct. To finance the initial construction of the aqueduct, as I have stated, our people voted in 1931 to assume the heavy financial obligation of bonds in the amount of $220,000,000. Approximately 180,000,000 of these bonds were sold to the Reconstruction Finance Corporation at an initial interest rate of 5 per cent, later slightly reduced to an average of about 4 per cent. These bonds have long since been sold by the R.F.C. on the public market at premiums which returned to the Government a net profit estimated to exceed $13,000,000. Thus, it can plainly be seen, the Colorado River aqueduct has not been benefited by one dollar of Federal aid, but on the contrary has contributed heavily to the financial benefit of our Government's treasury. Once more, permit me to state that our people do not regret their decision to assume the tremendous aqueduct bond obligation. It was essential that this obligation be assumed if the vitally strategic area on the south coastal plain of California is to go forward with an orderly and necessary program of development. Our people were ready and willing to take up the full burden of this obligation because they had utter faith in the sanctity and dependability of their Colorado River water contracts with the United States Government, contracts made pursuant to the terms and provisions of the Boulder Canyon Project Act which was adopted by Congress in 1928. Insofar as the members of the Board of Directors was concerned, let me say that not one of our nineteen members on the Board in those days ever questioned the validity of our water contracts with the Government. It never occurred to any one of us that the time would come when our Government would not keep faith with its own people in the complete fulfillment of its pledged word to make the water available as required. Realizing the imperative need of our region for the Colorado River water we enthusiastically advocated the approval of the aqueduct bond issue by our people, and they, in their turn, as I have

previously noted, did authorize this bond issue by the decisive majority of five to one. Incidentally, allow me to point out, that no member of the Board of Directors of the Metropolitan Water District has ever received one dollar of remuneration for his time and services on that Board. It has been a civic enterprise of the highest order in which we have been proud as citizens of the United States to participate. The construction of the Aqueduct was started in 1932, in the trough of the depression, when we were able to choose from the eminent engineers of the United States those best qualified to do this unprecedented job. And those engineers in turn were able to secure efficient assistants and provide jobs for 38,000 men, at the highest wages of that day, and under the best of working conditions.

The Aqueduct was completed in June, 1941 -- five months before Pearl Harbor. The citizens of the District are proud of this great engineering achievement -- not only because it provides life-giving water, which is the prime necessity for the future development of farms and homes for our successors and for returning veterans in some of the most fertile valleys on God's earth -- but because it has made possible the water and power for the gigantic Defense Plants which are producing planes and ships by the tens of thousands, and other implements of war -- the prime necessity of the United States and our Allied Nations today. I am quite sure, Mr. Chairman, that you and the other distinguished members of your committee will agree when I remind you that the end of this war will not eliminate the continuing need for naval and military installations and for the continuing operation of heavy industrial plants on the Pacific Coast. We have learned, belatedly, that the oceans no longer are effective barriers against aggressor nations. And, until some world organization far more tangible than any now in operation, has been tried and proven, the United States in common prudence must maintain an adequate and ever ready Pacific Coast defense. Southern California is today and must surely remain a strategic area in this general zone of our Pacific defense. The Colorado River is the "last water hole" for Southern California. The proposed Treaty, in giving to landowners in Mexico Colorado River water which is vitally essential in the maintenance of an adequate defense in this area, I respectfully submit, reveals a shocking lack of foresight in a Nation which ought to have learned some bitter lessons since December 7, 1941. President Roosevelt, in his inaugural address said - "We may make mistakes. But they must never be mistakes which result from faintness of heart or <u>abandonment of moral principle</u>."

It would be easy to make the mistake of ratifying this treaty, unless it were thoroughly studied against a background of all the facts. Such an examination brings out the moral issue to which I would direct your attention.

The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California and other agencies here represented had no "faintness of heart" when they took upon themselves the building of Boulder Dam, the Colorado River Aqueduct, the All-American Canal, and mortgaged their homes and farms and their children's homes to pay for them. I ask you if it would not be an abandonment of moral principle to break faith with such courageous citizenship?

The United States today is writing, with the blood of your sons and grandsons, across the broad expanse of the Pacific and on the battlefields of Europe, its belief in the principles of freedom, equality, and justice, ~~and humanity~~, for which American patriots of former generations sacrificed their lives and fortunes.

Not only for ourselves do we defend these principles, but for all mankind, and we hold the dream of a world order in which such ideals may ultimately be secured.

In these days of planning for world peace, does it not become our first responsibility to see that Justice is administered at home, among the states of our own union? For any sort of lasting peace must be founded on honor and integrity.

The INJUSTICE of giving to Mexico more water than that to which she is entitled, — in open breach of contract by the United States with its own citizens after they have in good faith conserved and planned the use of such waters for the benefit of our nation as a whole -- is nothing short of an abandonment of moral principle.

Injustice more than any single evil, eats at the heart of mankind, and is the hardest to forget or forgive.

The United States is striving to build good will and friendship throughout the world. But real friendship is not made by the giving of material things. It is made by being the kind of person whom a neighbor can absolutely trust and depend upon. This applies to both individuals and nations.

Good will can never be established by the expediency of injustice -- even if the injustice is practiced "within the family."

Foreign relations, I humbly submit, cannot be any better than the domestic policies on which they are founded. And no treaty is any better than the honor of the countries signing it.

Our neighbor statesmen in Mexico cannot honestly respect a treaty made by our government in violation of its contract with the Southwestern States any more than one of you gentlemen would respect a trade I made with you by robbing my own son to do it.

You recall it was Germany that called written agreements "scraps of paper." We see the results today. When any nation, ~~without due process of law~~, makes "scraps of paper" out of its own contracts it has taken a long step on the road to chaos.

Such abandonment of principle ~~would be~~ is hard to justify in the United States today -- while our boys are dying to re-establish the principles of justice and humanity, essential to any civilized order.

For the crucial years ahead, when we shall be sacrificing ever more and more in the name of Democracy, Justice and Humanity, calling for the perfect unity and team-work of every state in the Union, we can ill afford to plant the seeds of animosity between the states of California and Texas. And we should so guard the principle of Justice in our domestic and foreign policies that when we gather one day around a conference table with Mexico and our other good neighbors, to talk to and with them about a just and lasting peace for all the world, they may have no cause to mistrust our sincerity.

ATTORNEY GENERAL ROBERT W. KENNY'S OPENING

STATEMENT ON BEHALF OF

CALIFORNIA

I am particularly honored by the fact that Senator Hiram Johnson has asked me to make the opening statement for California. I have always felt that if Boulder Dam was to be named for a living person instead of for a place, that it should be called the Johnson Dam.

The fight to erect Boulder was a great peoples fight. It presented the dream of the pioneering business men, the home-owner and the farmer. The dream that this last great water hole would be developed and its energies harnessed for the benefit of the people - not for the benefit of those who would exploit them and the public domain. It was a great people's fight and it was led by Senator Johnson - just as he has led nearly every other people's fight in our region for nearly forty years.

It takes some temerity on the part of a one-horse lawyer to appear here in oppocition to the wishes of the State Department of the largest nation in the world, but California elected me to be its lawyer and the people of this nation by their constitution have erected this great tribunal - The Foreign Relations Committee of the United States Senate to which the aggrieved citizen or aggrieved State may appeal.

This is the first time-here, today- that California has had a chance to state its whole case publicly and openly so that you gentlemen in the Committee and the whole country as well will have an opportunity to decide whether this is a Treaty conceived in national interest.

It is my belief that this Treaty has been carefully worked out and studied insofar as it effects the Rio Grande. I can say that California sincerely hopes that that portion of the Treaty will ultimately come into effect.

I only wish that I could be equally as complimentary as to the skill and fairness of our State Department in effecting an apportionment of the waters of the Colorado River.

It is with great personal reluctance that I must condemn this portion of the Treaty. Some of the gentlemen on this Committee may

recall that only a few months ago, as Chairman of the California Delegation at Chica go, I was the man who cast the States 56 votes for President Roosevelt.

I am therefore most jealous of the reputation of this Administration as a good treaty-maker. In the critical months and years to come, the hopes of this nation and of the world will hang upon the skill and wisdom of our country's treaty-makers.

Therefore, my remarks today are not only addressed to this honorable Committee - this great tribunal set up between the individual State and the general Government - but I am also taking this means of appealing to the Secretary of State and to our President to withdraw this treaty promptly for further study or to consent to reservations which will make the Treaty consistent both with the National interest and with a really durable Good Neighbor Policy.

As this Treaty is now drawn, I am forced to accuse our State Department of the sin of vicarious generosity. Vicarious generosity, gentlemen, as you well know is the practice of profligate liberality with somebody else's wealth. It is not skillful treaty making to take away forever the waters for which progressive American communities have so recently and successfully fought a great people's battle. It is not a wise statesmanship that would take those dearly bought waters and give them to a foreign power. Despite the declarations of certain witnesses from other States in the Colorado Basin, this course of conduct, expensive as it is to American thrift and natural wealth, will never succeed in purchasing tranquility on our two great Southwestern Rivers.

Oliver Wendell Holmes said that:

"A river is not only an amenity, it is a treasure."

Our witnesses will show to the Committee, I am confident, that the State Department's vicarious generosity with our treasure will not buy permanent good-will on either side of the international boundary. These hearings are the first opportunity in many years that the American people have had to witness the inside workings of our treaty-making processes. Now that it is out in the open before you gentlemen, I do

not think this Treaty can stand the light of day. I am still hopeful that the State Department, in the interest of its own lasting reputation can be persuaded by the testimony of our witnesses, to withdraw the Treaty promptly and go to work in obtaining a new agreement that both the United States and Mexico can unanimously support.

I am appearing as a representative of the State of California on behalf of its eight million inhabitants.

The State of California is opposed to the Treaty under consideration. Its opposition, I stress at the outset, is not based on narrow self-interest, but on broad National and International grounds. The State considers the Treaty inequitable in law and contrary to the best interests of all parties concerned-- the people of Mexico, as well as the people of the United States.

It is not my intention to go into the complicated technical and legal aspects of the matter before you. Other witnesses from my State will cover these matters in detail in appearances subsequent to mine. I shall confine my brief remarks to an exposition of what I consider to be the basic consideration which the Committee must pass upon.

The members of this Committee are aware, I am sure,of the very fundamental questions, both legal and economic, implicit in the provisions of this Treaty. I need not, I am certain, spend any appreciable amount of the Committee's time to prove this. Approval of the treaty in its present form would, I think it is obvious, have profound and and far-reaching economic effects. These effects, I submit, woult not in the long run be beneficial to the peoples living on either side of the border.

I am, as you know, Attorney General of my State. In my official capacity therefore, my concern in these proceedings is to protect the legal rights of my State. At a later point in my testimony I intend to discuss the purely legal phases of the Treaty as they affect the interests of the State. At this point,

however, I should like to speak as a private citizen with a deep concern for the economic well-being of my fellow citizens of the United States. I should, within the limits of my understanding of these matters, like to discuss the relationship of the provisions of this Treaty to the economic health of the people affected, irrespective of nationality.

The members of this Committee share with me, I am sure, a basic optimism about the future prosperity of our great nation. Because of their special interest in foreign affairs I need hardly point out that, to be lasting, prosperity cannot be merely national. We cannot have rich nations prosperous at the expense of their neighbors. "Haves"" and "Have-nots", we have learned breed war. In the waging of global war we have come to realize the interpendence and inadvisability of the economys of all of the United Nations. We have, in short, gone a long way to under-standing how to do our economic housekeeping on an international scale. We will, I trust, continue to think and act, in those terms, because I am firmly convinced that that way is the only sensible and possible way to attain lasting peace and continued prosperity.

We have learned something else in the war time integration of the economys of the United Nations. The generals call it logistics, the industrial engineers call it efficiency. I call it good horse sense. What it adds up to, as I see it, is determining what the most productibe utilization of natural resources, manufacturing capacity, transportation and manpower will be, without regard for special, group, regional or national interests. The only yardstick applied is whether or not the project is the best, the most logical and the most economical way of getting the job done. That method, I believe, ought to be used in international post-war arrangements. The proposed Mexican water treaty is, I believe, a good case in point. It is not, as I see it, the most logical way of achieving the maximum utilization of resources, nor will it result in the optimum result in terms of economic benefits. To put it another way,

<u>Mexico will gain little; the United States will lose much</u>

I would like to say a little more on this aspect of the matter, in somewhat more concrete terms. The United States area serviced by the waters of the Colorado and its tributaries is a vast, highly important area economically. Thousands of farms and factories within the States of California, Nevada and Arizona depend heavily on the water of the Colorado and its tributaries for their continued operation. I think it can fairly be said that the best measure of the prosperity of the region can be forecast by the level of stored water in Boulder Dam. If water is scarce jobs will be scarce. The provisions of this treaty as presently constituted will unquestionably make water scarce in the area, particularly in Southern California and Arizona. It will, I am convinced, put a ceiling on that region's ability in the post-war period to provide its portion of our national goal of full employment.

I n making these assertions I want it clearly understood that I am not advocating taking Southern California's post-war prosperity out of Mexico's hide, so to speak. That portion of Mexico within reach of the waters of the Colorado and its tributaries has a legitimate right to its fair share. More than that, the expansion and strengthening of Mexico's post-war economy is, I recognize important to the prosperity of this country. This country should give Mexico the requisite technical and financial assistance for the attainment of these purposes. The allocation of a minimum of 1,500,000 acre-feet of water to serve a limited area of Mexico however is not, I am convinced vital to the attainment of these objectives. The contemplated use of the diverted water- the expansion of cotton acreage in Mexico - willnot I am certain do much, if anything, to raise significantly the general level of the Mexican economy. On the contrary, in the light of post-war cotton market prospects, I believe it might very well become a liability, rather than an asset, in the Mexican economy. I might say, parenthetically, however, that the allocation to Mexico of the amount of water contemplated by this Treaty will without question be a boon to a small group of international financiers with interest in the area.

It is my earnest hope that this Committee will give weight to the probable economic results of the Treaty in its present form. I trust that in their deliberations they apply the management engineer's measure, and that they weigh the alternative economic benefits, both Mexican and American, before acting.

I think a most cursory examination of the economys to be served by the waters of the Colorado makes clear that under this Treaty the most efficient utilization of those waters is not being made.

I think it regretable that the negotiators of this Treaty paid so little attention to the economic aspects of the Treaty, and I trust, that in further consideration of it, weight will be given to those matters.

The area on the American side of the International Boundary is, I need hardly to point out, the center of a vast agricultural empire and a war-crested industrial production center. The enterprises of the area supports some 3,500,000 persons. Aside from the agricultural enterprise of Southern California and Arizona there has developed in the region under the impetus of the war, a sizeable complex industrial activity. It is the intention of the people of the area, industry and labor, to maintain in the post-war period its newly created industrialization. An adequate supply of water cannot be divorced from this objective. In the post-war period, if we are to maintain high levels of employment, a guaranteed adequate source of water for industrial purposes, as well as agricultural, is essential.

On the other hand, the Mexican area to be served by the diversion of the Colorado in the amount determined by this Treaty will serve an extremely limited area in terms of opportunities for economic development. The area is sparsely settled, without opportunity for industrial enterprises and with very limited opportunities for diversified agricultural production. As I indicated earlier in my statement, the provision of 1,500,000 acre-feet of water per annum to Mexico will not in any fundamental

way serve to create any appreciable national wealth for the people of Mexico. It will serve only to make possible the expansion of crop acreage in a limited range of agricultural commodities far from Mexico's consuming centers.

It will be revealing to this Committee when I tell you that about seventy-five per cent of the total agricultural economy of the Mexican area to be served by this Treaty is devoted to cotton cultivation. It will even be more revealing when I tell you that almost all of this cotton is for export out of Mexico, largely to European markets. No appreciable portion of the cotton is spun or woven in the Republic of Mexico. It adds nothing to employment opportunities for the industrial population of Mexico. All it adds to the Mexican economy is the opportunity, and I use the word advisedly, for a scant few hundred Mexican agricultural laborers to work for the wages afforded by a semi-feudal economy.

I, therefore, submit that if this Committee applies the rules of good economic sense to this Treaty it would without question find the State Department position without validity. It would be clear to the Senate, and I think to the authorities of Mexico, that the contiguous economys of Southern California and Mexico must be considered as a unit, and that the natural resources of the area demand that they be utilized as a unit. This Treaty fails to do that. The waters of the Colorado will under the Treaty be used without real regard for resultant economic effects.

The members of this Committee, I trust, will appreciate more is involved than mere consideration of the Treaty before them. As I stated before, the whole question of the wise exercise of our Government's Treaty mkaing powers is involved.

This Administration is committed to the Good Neighbor Policy. That policy as I interpret it means a renunciation of economic exploitation. More than that, it meanx an active policy of hemispheric economic development, an effort on the part of all the Republics to raise their standards of living through the development of sound economic enterprise.

The people of the State of California fully support the efforts of the people of Mexico to improve their economic status. The people of my State realize that a poor Mexico does not make a rich California, quite the contrary. Therefore, we give full support to all effort of the Federal Government, and of private enterprise in the building up of Mexico's post-war internal economy. The Treaty under consideration we feel does violence to this effort.

Mexico's post-war economic problem, agricultural and industrial, is a serious and complex one. Mexico will require capital, goods and huge public works in the post-war period. It will need technical and managerial assistance from this country. It will need credits. All of these things Mexico should get - not out of a sense of philanthropy but because it is good business for us. The Treaty before you, however, is an evasion of these international responsibilities. It is a poultice to cure a cancer. It is a stick pf peppermint candy proffered by the State Department to a hungry man. If it is a measure of the depth of economic understanding on the part of the State Department, I think it the duty of this Committee to acquaint the Department with the A B C of International Economics.

As I indicated in an earlier part of my statement, I come before you as the Chief legal officer of my State. My major concern in these proceedings, naturally, is with the legal aspects of the treaty under consideration. The remainder of my statement will therefore be devoted to these matters.

Mexico's use of water has, prior to the building of Boulder Dam, been served from an uncontrolled and unregulated river. The river was then characterized by a heavy flood flow of two or three months duration, followed by nine or ten months of low flow during the critical part of the irrigation season. Mexico's use of water was subject to this variation and to the variations of successive wet and dry cycles of years, normally seven to eleven years in succession

Had Boulder Damn not been built by the United States, Mexico could never have secured by her own efforts as much as one million five hundred thousand acre-feet of water per annum in a normal or wet year, and in many subnormal years she could not have gotten more than a fraction of that amount.

There is a logical and just mode of division of water with Mexico which would not subject the rights of all users in the United States so unfairly to a prior charge in favor of Mexico. After thorough engineering and legal examinations and full debate the Committee of Fourteen of the Colorado River Basin States on June 2-, 1942, at El Paso, Texas unanimously adopted a resolution which set out a plan for a treaty that was satisfactory to all seven states of the Basin. This plan provided in essence for the allotment of Water to Mexico upon a sliding scale, so much in a normal year and so much more or less in wet years or dry years. Under that plan Mexico would have been treated fairly in normal seasons and would have gained ratably with American projects in wet seasons, but would have had to shrink her demands in dry cycles. She would not have been able to insist on her pound of flesh in preference to all American projects, which is exactly what the Treaty proposed by the State Department inexorably compels.

A river is not a machine. Its output of water is not a fixed and predictable quantity, day by day and year by year. The Colorado, in particular, is one of the flashiest and most unpredictable rivers of the world. Its flow has been as high as twenty-five million acre-feet per year. But I recall to your mind the year 1934 in which its flow at Boulder Dam was recorded at only 4,400,000.

So I submit to you that any treaty which guarantees to Mexico a large fixed amount of water superior to all rights in the United States, is wrong in principle. There is no reason and no necessity for granting a foreign nation a share of the river on such a basis that in time of normal shortage, not extraordinary in character, American projects must shutdown their headgates in order that the foreign projects be served 100%

I come now to a subject which involves the good faith and moral rectitude of the United States. The great and daring project for the construction of Boulder Dam, as the major factor in the harnessing of the wild Colorado, was finally authorized by the Boulder Canyon Project Act of 1928. That Act approved the Colorado River Compact of 1922, an agreement among the seven States of the Colorado River Basin by which certain of the waters of the river were allocated to the four upper States of the Basin and to the three lower States, as groups. By reason of the repeated refusal of one of the Seven States, Arizona, to ratify the compact, Congress decided to proceed with the Project provided Six of the Seven States, including California, should ratify the Compact, and in addition California should, by statute, for the benefit of the other Six States, perpetually limit her use of water of the Colorado River to certain prescribed quantities. In such event, said Congress, the Dam should be built, otherwise not. So compelling was California's necessity for the protection of the lives and property of her people from disaster by flood that she accepted this harsh and novel condition. Her Legislature on March 4, 1929, adopted an Act ratifying the compact and another Act, now known as the California Limitation Act, by which she imposed on herself and her people the precise limitation which Congress demanded. Thereby California, in the opinion of many of her people, agreed to take from the river far less water than she could have practicably put to use and much less water than she was entitled to under the doctrine of equitable apportionment between States which has been laid down by the decisions of the Supreme Court of the United States.

By terms of the Project Act and of the Limitation Act there was created a statutory compact between the United States and the State of California, a treaty between sovereigns. This treaty has today the force of law, binding the United States and its agencies as well as the State and its Agencies and each of its citizens.

The Treaty has up to this day been scrupulously adhered to and respected by California. California expects to be bound by it so long as it continues in force.

The terms of the Treaty must be deduced from the entire content of both the Project Act and the Limitation Act. One of the terms is contained in the first Section of the Project Act. After full exposition of the provision on the floor of the Senate during the final debates of th the Act, Congress intentionally and forcefully provided in that section that the flood waters to be stored and conserved behind Boulder Dam should be reserved for "beneficial uses esclusively within the United States". Thereby Congress determined and declared, and, as the debates show, served notice on Mexico and on the world, that the policy of the United States would be to build Boulder Dam for the purposes, among other things, of dedicating the conserved flood waters to the up-building of the Colorado River Basin in the United States. As a necessary corollary, those conserved waters should never be given to Mexico. Any water which might be accorded to Mexico must, therefore be limited to such as she could have secured from the natural flow of the river.

This provision of the Project Act was a vital one, upon which the Legislature of California, when it considered the adoption of the Limitation Act, was entitled to rely and did in fact rely. It would never hafe adopted the Limitation Act, had not Congress stipulated that use of the conserved water should be confined to the United States. This is inescapably true, since the absence of such a provision would have meant that an unlimited quantity of Colorado River water might be granted to Mexico and thereby it would be made impossible for California to enjoy even that quantity to which she was forced to limit herself.

Now comes an executive Department of the Federal Government and proposes to you, the Senate, that the United States shall repudiate its Treaty with California by making a new and conflicting Treaty with Mexico. Other witnesses for California will show you, in detail, the facts. Those facts will tend to convince you that water stored and conserved

by Boulder Dam is proposed to be granted to Mexico, not temporarily, but perpetually and beyond recall. Thereby it will be made impossible for California to receive the full amount of water to which she was compelled to limit herself.

The United States has also pledged its good faith in an entirely distinct, though related, connection, Section 5 of the Boulder Canyon Project Act authorized the Secretary of the Interior to execute contracts for the delivery of the water to be conserved by Boulder Dam, and, closely integrated therewith contracts for power to be generated at the Dam. Section 4(b) prohibited the construction of the Dam until the Secretary should have procured such water and power contracts as would assure the repayment to the United States of the cost of the Dam and Power Plant, with interest.

The Secretary of the Interior did proceed to execute for water and power with public and private agencies in California which the Attorney General of the United States held sufficient to guarantee repayment of the cost of the Dam and power plant and interest. Thus, and only thus, did it become possible for Boulder Dam to be built and, in the phrase which some Senators will recall, for a great national menace to be converted into a great national asset. More recently, the State of Arizona and Neva have contracted with the Secretary of the Interior for water and will ultimately contribute some share of the cost of the Dam. Nevertheless it was the willingness of California Agencies to shoulder the burden of underwriting the cost which made the Dam a reality and made it possible for Nevada, Arizona and the States of the Upper Basin as well, to share in its benefits.

The California Agencies obligated themselves by their contracts in entire good faith and expected to be bound by them. They have lived up to their contracts to the letter. They took the contracts in absolute reliance upon the good faith of the United States and expected that of course the United States would on its side, live up to and perform the contracts. Most particularly, the California Agencies depended on the solemn declaration of policy contained in the first

Section of the project Act, namely, that the stored and conserved flood waters should be used exclusively within the United States. In the light of that policy, the contracts were firm contracts, which could be performed by the United States. They were, morecver, safely within the limitation of use required by the Project Act and the California Limitation Act. Without such policy, the United States might conceivably give such a great quantity to Mexico that the contracts might not be either firm or within the Limitation Act. Obviously, to justify the financing of the vast facilities contemplated by the California contracts the contracts must be firm and dependable. Witness the provision of Section 5 of the Project Act that "contracts respecting water for irrigation and domestic uses shall be for permanent service. . . ."

Acting in implicit reliance on the policy of the United States which was declared in the first Section of the Project Act, the California communities proceeded to construct Dams, Aqueducts, Canals, Power Transmission and other facilities within which to put the contracted water and power to use and enable them to earn the money which they had agreed to pay to the United States. They committed themselves to the execution of works of a total cost of over half a billion dollars. Over four hundred millions of this money have been actually expended and are now represented by bonds and contracts to repay. Thus the farms, homes and industries and jobs of Southern California and the future income of her people have been mortgaged to pay a huge debt, undertaken in confident reliance on the written promise of the United States, a promise authorized and embodied in a statute made under the sanction of the National Legislature and Executive and declared constitutional by the Supreme Court,

It is thus plain beyond words that the California agencies have, in the phrase of courts of equity, "changed their petition to their detriment " relying upon the pledges given them by the most responsible and dependable human agency on earth, the Government of the United States.

The Boulder Canyon Project Act did not only provide for the building of Boulder Dam. It also authorized the construction of the All-American Canal. That canal was designed to put some of the conserved waters of Boulder Dam to use on American soil and thereby create a great national asset. It was and is an integral part of the Boulder Canyon Project. To aid in making the All-American Canal financially feasible the Congress by Section 7 of the Project Act directly granted to the agencies which agreed to shoulder the burden of the cost of the Canal the power possibilities which existed on the Canal. Those agencies are Imperial Irrigation District, Coachella Valley County Water District and the City of San Diego. The power possibilities on the Canal have been partially developed and have been generating power for war needs. One power site is at a point called Pilot Knob. The Treaty requires that this potential source of income to repay the United States the money it has advanced for the Canal shall be taken away from the Canal Agencies. More startling, a share in the revenues from that power plant is to be given outright to Mexico.

That plant is nevessary to the integration of the power system on which the canal itself is predicated. It's seizure by the United States will seriously dislocate the enterprise. As I see it, there is no sound reason for this provision of the Treaty and obviouslyono excuse whatever to give its revenues to Mexico.

It will be realized by you, Senators, before the conclusion of this hearing, that eighty per cent of the actual users of Colorado River Water are opposed to the Treaty which is now before you. Evidence of that will be presented.

<u>These water users are opposed to it because it is unjust to our own people and is lacking in the integrity which our Government owes to its own people</u>. It will be shown to you that this Treaty is couched in vague, mysterious and ambiguous terms. This would be one thing were its meaning to be subject to determination by our courts. It is entirely another when it is seen that the Treaty expressly empowers a Commission of two men, one Mexican, one American, to determine finally what the Treaty means, what the Commission's own powers are, and even what the obligations of the two Nations are - all as will be shown to you, beyond control of

our courts. Moreover, there is vague intimation that the Commission or State Department, may at will, enter into unlimited expansion of its powers by their own future agreements, with no sanction by the Senate.

Throughout, the Commission and the American Commissioner are placed beyond effective control by Congress. The United States agrees to build, or do, what the two Commissioners agree on. If Congress refuses to appropriate, we have breached our Treaty and are subject to International odium and to discipline by International Tribunals.

You will be informed, during the hearing, that the American Bar Association has emphatically disapproved,by resolution , of some of the sweeping delegations of Legislature and Judicial power contained in this Treaty. Because of the Treaty's obvious failure to protect American interests, the Treaty has also been condemned by Resolutions adopted by the National Convention of the American Federation of Labor at New Orleans, by the National Encampment of the Veterans of Foreign Wars and other Veteran's organizations, and by the National Grange and other Farmers organizations.

It is settled beyond question, as the result of years of investigation by able Government engineers, that there are known feasible projects in the United States which can consume all of the water of the Colorado River, were no allowance made for Mexico, and a million acre-feet per annum more. Consequently, for every acre irrigated in Mexico, an acre in the American Southwest will be condemed forever to remain barren desert.

There is no visible consideration for the extravagent and vicarious generosity of this Treaty in giving away one of the most precious natural resources of the Southwest. Mexico gives nothing in return - she does not even pay her share of the cost of the vast conservation works which the United States has built and will build on the Colorado River. nor does the United States stand the cost of Boulder Dam, for example. Every dollar of that cost, with interest, will come from the pockets of water and power consumers in the Southwestern States, Arizona, Nevada and California.

If there is some national object which requires generosity to Mexico, the consideration should be paid from the Treasury of the whole United States, not be added to the power and water bills of home-owners and farmers in one section of our country.

For reasons I have sketched, and for many more which will be presented to you in detail, it is not surprising that national organizations of labor, of farmers, of the bar, and others have condemned the principles on which this Treaty is drawn.

I end as I began. The United States should scrupulously accord to Mexico that which is just and fair, nothing less, but certainly nothing more. But Senators will, I feel sure, weigh soberly arguments put before them which seek to prove that lavish and irretrievable donation of our natural resources to another nation is the way to maintain friendship. For myself, it is crystal clear that it would sow seeds of discord on our Southern border which would bear crops of bad will for a century.

An impressive list of witnesses have been and will be produced by the State Department to assert that, for some reason it is just and proper to divide our treasure with another nation, and that, somehow, we will not lose by it. I am confident that you will be alert to search and analyze their testimony, and that you will withhold judgment until you have heard both sides of this most serious controversy.

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MEMORANDUM RE MEXICAN TREATY

The pending Mexican treaty, wherein the United States guarantees to Mexico 1,500,000 acre feet of Colorado River water per annum, is against the interests of, and in violation of the contract rights of, American communities and States of the Union, and should not be ratified. California is willing that Mexico's "natural and historic" rights be preserved, but opposes the extension to Mexico, without consideration, of the fruits of American labor and expenditure on American soil.

1. All of the water of the Colorado River originates in the United States. Its flow is extremely irregular and can be effectively used only with the aid of large storage. The United States has many natural storage sites. There are none in Mexico.

2. Water available from the river is not sufficient to serve all of the lands in the United States subject to development therefrom. Accordingly, any guarantee of water to Mexico curtails the development of communities in the United States.

3. Prior to the construction of Boulder Dam, Mexico had reached the limit of "safe and profitable development" from the unregulated river. Such use, over the ten-year period preceding closing of Boulder, averaged 600,000 acre feet per annum, with a peak of 750,000 acre feet per annum. Any water in excess of that amount is available for use solely by reason of large storage in the United States.

4. The only storage sufficient to enable the United States to satisfy the treaty guarantee is in the Boulder Reservoir. The proposed Davis Dam (mentioned in the treaty) will not provide over-year storage, but will serve merely to re-regulate Boulder discharge. Boulder Dam was built entirely on American ground, by use of American money and labor.

5. The Boulder Canyon Project Act authorized the building of Boulder Dam for storage of water for use "exclusively within the United States." In reliance upon, and specifically "in consideration of the passage of the Boulder Canyon Project Act," California agreed to limit its use of Colorado River water, in derogation of its natural right to appropriate, contract for and use such water, and consequently has a contractual interest in the protective terms of the Boulder Canyon Project Act.

6. American communities, in reliance upon the Project Act, and water delivery contracts made thereunder, have expended hundreds of millions of dollars for the construction of works with which to use water so contracted for. In general, the same American communities are, under their power contracts, standing the cost of the Boulder Project.

7. The United States cannot fully perform its California water delivery contracts and at the same time perpetually satisfy the proposed guarantee to Mexico.

James H. Howard
General Counsel, The Metropolitan
Water District of
Southern California

STATEMENT BY PHIL D. SWING OF SAN DIEGO CALIFORNIA
IN OPPOSITION TO PROPOSED MEXICAN TREATY

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Gentlemen:

It shall be my purpose to discuss and explain the legal background or the legislative history of the laws which constitute the foundation and framework for the rights which california claims are ignored and violated by this Treaty. In their chronological order, they are:

1. Act of Congress August 19, 1921, authorizing the Seven Colorado River Basin States to negotiate a compact and the compact entered into by them under said Act.

2. The Boulder Canyon Project Act approved December 21, 1928.

3. The California Limitation Act, approved March 4, 1929, the passage of which Act by the California Legislature was made a condition by action 4(a) of the Boulder Canyon Project Act to the later Act becoming effective.

4. The 5 Water Contracts, 7 power contracts made with the United States, by California Agencies for the use of Boulder Dam water. In addition byt at a later date, the United States also entered into contracts with Arizona for 2,800,000 acre-feet per annum and with Nevada for 300,000 acre-feet of Boulder Dam water.

THE COLORADO RIVER COMPACT

The thing that prompted the occasion or demand for a Colorado River Compact was the more rapid development in the lower basin compared to that in the upper basin. But specifically it was the fear created in the minds of the people of the upper basin by the growing demand for the Boulder Dam Project. The Upper States feared if a big dam were built on the lower half of the River and the All-American Canal built to take its waters to irrigate new lands in Imperial Valley and Coachella Valley and the Colorado River Aqueduct built to carry domestic water to the cities of the coastal plains, the upper basin would be losing out in the competitive race for water rights under the appropriation laws which govern in the Western States. The law makes first in use first in right. The Upper States were especially afraid of the proposal to generate a large amount of power at the proposed dam, as that would constitute a beneficial use and might establish a right to the unused flow of the River which would hamper and restrict subsequent development and uses in the Upper States.

They accordingly, were opposed to any development in the lower

basin, until they could get a compact guaranteeing to them the right to make future developments and uses of the Colorado River water when they got ready.

Hence they demanded this compact as their price for not opposing the Boulder Dam Project. California agreed.

Accordingly in 1921, the first year I served in Congress, Mr. Delf Carpenter of Colorado, presented to Congress the plan, of which I understand he was the author, for Congress to authorize a compact between the Seven Colorado River Basin States. The Act was q uickly passed. Mr. Herbert Hoover, than Secretary of Commerce, was appointed Federal Representative. Each of the Governors appointed a State Representative. The Commission met first in Washington and afterward out in the basin states and finally at Santa Fe, New Mexico November 24, 1922, drafted and signed the compact.

It is now claimed, as I understand it, that this compact apportioned Colorado River water to Mexico. This contention is based on the wording of Art III (a), (b) and (c) of the Compact. The State Department had this language on a chart and it was referred to by Mr. Lawson and Mr. Clayton. We believe others following us will urge the same claim as a reason why California's contracts for Boulder Dam water are not firm contracts as we claim they a re. It becomes important therefore to determine just what was the intent and purpose of the Compact and the effect of the language used therein:

ARTCLE III (a) (b) and (c) reads as follows:

(a) There is hereby apportioned from the Colorado River System in perpetuity to the Upper Basin and to the Lower Basin respectively, the exclusive beneficial consumptive use of 7,500,000 acre-feet of water per annum, which shall include all water necessary for the supply of any rights which may now exist.

(b) In addition to the apportionment in paragraph (a), the Lower Basin is hereby given the right to increase its beneficial consumptive use of such waters by one million acre-feet per annum.

(c) If, as a matter of international comity, the United States of America shall hereafter recognize in the United States of Mexico any right to the use of any waters of the Colorado River System, such waters ahll be supplied first from the waters which are over and above the aggregate of the quantities specified in paragraphs (a) and (b); and if such surplus shall prove insufficient for this purpose, then the burden of such deficiency shall be equally borne by the Upper Basin and the Lower Basin, and whenever necessary the States of the Upper Division shall deliver at Lee Ferry water to supply one-half of the deficiency so recognized in addition to that provided in paragraph (d).

Paragraph (d) merely provides that the Upper States will let down to lower basin 75,000,000 after every 10 year period.

We contend in the first place that the Colorado River Commission which negotiated the Compact had no power to apportion any water to Mexico even if it wanted to, and in the second place, we believe it is clear that they did not even attempt to do so. The language of Article III (c) of the Compact, if not directly negative the idea that Mexico has any right to Colorado River water, certainly falls far short of recognizing any right in Mexico to any water. The language is:

> " If as a matter of international comity the United States of America shall hereafter recognize in the United States of Mexico any right to the use of any waters of the Colorado River System".

But it seems to me a complete answer to this claim is that the Colorado River Commission had no power or authority to make an apportionment of water to Mexico.

Let me read the language of the Act of August 19, 1921 giving the consent of Congress to the negotiating of this Compact:

(Hoover Dam Contracts p.383)

> " That consent of Congress is hereby given to the States of Arizona, California, Colorado, Nevada, New Mexico, Utah and Wyoming to negotiate and enter into a Compact.....providing for an equitable division and apportionment among said States of the water supply of the Colorado River and the streams tributary thereto...."

No where in the Act is there any authority to apportion any water to Mexico. If there could be any doubt on this point it ought to be cleared by the answers of Mr. Hoover given to Mr. Hayden immediately following the signing of the Compact as to what its terms meant. At pages 396 and 397 of Hoover Dam Contracts the Chairman of the Commission, Mr. Hoover, is quoted as saying:

> "No, Paragraph (c) of Art. III does not contemplate any treaty."

Again:

> "There is certainly nothing in the Compact which requires any water whatever to run unused to Mexico or which recognizes any Mexican right, the only reference to that situation being the expression of the realization, that some such rights, may perhaps in the future be established by the Treaty. As I understand the matter, the United States is not"bound to recognize" any such rights of a foreign country unless based upon treaty stipulations".

And again:

> "As already stated there is no reference in the compact to any rights of any persons in Mexico; none are created; none are recognized . That entire question, if it ever arises must be dealt with by the Federal Government in the exercise of its treaty making power. Such a subject was beyond the purview of the Acts creating the Commission and it was intentionally omitted from the compact."

These statements of the Chairman of the Colorado River Commission were placed in the Congressional Record by the Hon Carl Hayden, then a Representative in Congress from Arizona, January 30, 1923. They were placed in the Boulder Dam hearings of Congress before that bill was reported - They were published in 1933 in the Government publication entitled "The Hoover Dam Contracts". No where, at no time, that I have any knowledge of, has anyone ever criticised these statements by Mr. Hoover, made at a time when all the records were before him and when the facts and happenings were fresh in his memory. Criticism at this late date cannot carry much weight.

The Compact although signed in 1922, did not become effective until 1929. The reason for this was that the Compact as originally drafted provided it must be approved by the Legislature of each of the Seven Basin States and by Congress. Arizona declined to approve it with the result that the other Six States finally decided to waive the requirement for approval by Arizona and agreed that it should be binding as between the remaining Six States. The Boulder Canyon Project Act carried (see 4a and sec 13 a) Congress's approval of the Compact on a Six State basis.

BOULDER CANYON PROJECT ACT.

As co-author with Senator Johnson of the Boulder Canyon Project Act, I feel that I can point out and explain some of the provisions of that Act which have a bearing upon the question of whether this Treaty should be ratified.I charge, and witnesses who follow will prove, that this Treaty openly and directly violates both the spirit and the express provisions of the Boulder Canyon Project Act. I insist that the officials of the State Department are not above the laws of our country and that they had no right to ignore the Boulder Canyon Project Act in negotiating this Treaty and that is what I claim they did.

An analysis of the Act will show:

NOTE 1. (a) By Sec. 1 the construction of Boulder Dam was authorized to store water "for reclamation of public lands and other beneficial uses exclusively within the United States."

(b) also " A main canal. . . entirely within the United States connecting. . . Dam. . . . with the Imperial and Coachella Valleys in California".

(c) "Project herein authorized a self supporting and financially solvent undertaking.

(d) The expenditures for said main canal to be reimbursable as provided in the reclamation law.

NOTE 2 Sec. 4(a) Provided that the Act was to be of no effect until California "shall agree irrevocably and unconditionally with United States. . . that the aggregate annuan consumptive use. . . from the Colorado River for use in the State of California. . . shall not exceed 4,400,000 acre-feet of the waters apportioned to the Lower Basin States by paragraph (a) of Article III of the Colorado River Compact plus not more than 1/2 of any excess of surplus waters unapportioned by said Compact, such uses always to be subject to the terms of said compact".

a. Here Congress fixes a limit on California's rights to Colorado River water and as the price for the Act becoming effective requires that "California by Act of its Legislature shall agree" with the United States to that limit.

Subsequently California complied with the requirement. This imposed limit - substantially less than what California needs and could beneficially use - is 4,400,000 acre-feet per year of the waters apportioned by Art. III (a) of the Compact plus 1/2 of any excess or surplus.

b. The administrative interpretation of this provision by the United States officials is found in California's contracts which total 5,362,000 acre-feet, which is of course 4,400,000 acre-feet of III(a) water plus 962,000 acre-feet of excess or surplus.

c. Now 10 or 15 years after these contracts were executed by the United States it is claimed that there is nothing wrong or immoral in the United States withdrawing this 962,000 acre-feet, if necessary to fulfill the pending Treaty with Mexico because the promise to deliver the water was made "subject to the availability thereof for use in California under the Colorado River Compact and the Boulder Canyon Project Act". We have seen I believe that the Compact apportioned no water to Mexico nor did it recognize any rights in Mexico to Colorado River water - therefore, so far as the Compact is concerned the water covered by

California contracts was "available for use in California" at the time the contracts were made.

The question here is: ought not the United States, after giving out these contracts and after taking our money have protected these contracts in the Treaty it subsequently negotiated; ought it not to have respected the sancticity of its own contractd. In the Government free, as a matter of good faith, after we in reliance on these contracts have expended over $500,000,000, to now impair its ability to perform these contracts. We believe right thinking people must answer that question in the negative.

d. It seems clear that this language in the contracts " subject to the availability thereof for use in California under the Colorado River Compact and the Boulder Canyon Project Act" was intended to mean and does mean that that contract together with the other California contracts, shall fall within the limitations imposed, by this Section as to "aggregate annual consumptive use" not exceeding "4,400,000 acre-feet of Article III (a) water plus 1/2 of the surplus". Admittedly these contracts fell within that limit and so were valid and binding contracts.

NOTE 3 Sec. 4(b) was the provision which called upon California to underwite, in the beginning, the entire cost of the project which it did by means of these water and power contracts, without which the United States would not start work on Boulder Dam. While the Act does not name California - no other State at the time offered to sign contracts.

NOTE 4 Sec 4 (b) contains a similar requirement for repayment contracts before starting work on the All-American Canal. These were. These were severe and unusual requirements not generally insisted upon.

NOTE 5 Sec. 4(b) also contains a provision for payment to the States of Arizona and Nevada of money in lieu of taxes which might have been collected if the project were a private undertaking. Under the Adjustment Act the 18 3/4 % of excess revenues named in the Boulder Canyon Project Act was changed to a flat lump sum of $300,000 a year to each, Arizona and Nevada. The principal part of this money comes from California.

NOTE 6 Sec. 5 contains two provisions carrying important declarations of policy:

(a) Contracts for Boulder Dam water, " for irrigation and domestic uses shall be for permanent service". Here is a clear recognition by Congress that in order to put Boulder Dam water to use in reclaiming new lands or in supplying cities 200 miles away on the Pacific Coast expensive projects must be constructed costing tens of millions of dollars and that if American cities and American agricultural communities were to embark upon such costly undertakings - their contracts for water would have to be firm contracts for continuous and permanent service. In the first place bonds had to be sold - and the bond buyer had to be

convinced that the assets - in this case the water- would continue to be there at least over the 50 year period of his bonds and secondly no community in the semi-arid West can be built on the insecure foundation of an uncertain water supply - Hence Congress declared these contracts should be for permanent service - not just until some time in the future when the State Department might decide to take the water away and give it to Mexico.

(b) This section also contains the further declaration of policy towit:

"No one shall be entitled to have use for any purpose of the stored water except by contract with the Secretary of the Interior.

This language seems clearly to declare a policy which should preclude the Secretary of State from disposing of the waters stored back of Boulder Dam through the medium of a treaty with Mexico.

NOTE 7. Section 7 provides:

" The said districts or other agencies shall have the privilege at any time of utilizing by contract or otherwise such power possibilities as may exist upon said Canal, in proportion to their respective contributions or obligations toward the capigal cost of said Canal and appurtenant structures from and including diversion works to the point where each respective power plant may be located. The net proceeds from any power development on said Canal shall be paid into the fund and credited to said Districts or other agencies on their said contracts, in proportion to their right to develop power"

a. This language is important because under this provision the United States agreed with the Imperial Irrigation District in the contract for the construction of the All-American Canal that the District should have the right to build and operate a power plant at Pilot Knob. Now this Treaty takes that site away from the District. This site is the most valuable power possibility which the District owns but its value when used in connection with the District's other hydro plants is much greater than when used alone. It is the keystone of the District's $13,000,000 power system and from this power system both the District and the United States Government have counted from the very beginning for the revenues with which the District would repay the greater part of the $26,000,000 debt which the District owes the Government for the construction of the All-American Canal. Later witnesses will present the facts to show that the Government ought not to break in this manner its contract with the Imperial Irrigation District.

NOTE 8. Section 9 contains the promise of Congress to the Veterans that all Public lands practicable of irrigation and reclamation by waters stored behind Boulder Dam will be withdrawn from entry until water is available and then shall be opened with the veterans having the preference right of entry. There are approximately 1,000,000 acres, mostly public land, below Boulder Dam capable of being reclaimed by its waters. This land is utterly worthless without water. For every acre put under cultivation in Mexico with Colorado River water an acre in the United States must forever remain desert because admittedly there is not enough water in the river to meet all future requirements in both countries. Veterans are rightly complaining that this Treaty violates the promise Congress made to them .

NOTE 9. The second half of Section 10 authorizes the Secretary of the Interior to contract with the Imperial Irrigation District for the construction by the Government for the District of the All-American Canal. As we have already pointed out this has been done, but under this Treaty the United States proposes to take away from the District that Section of the Canalfrom Imperial Dam down to and including Pilot Knob waste way and the Pilot Knob Power site.

NOTE 10. Section 16 provides for the Secretary of the Interior to investigate all feasible projects in the Colorado River basin and "formulate a comprehensive scheme of control and the improvement and utilization of the water of Colorado River and its tributaries."

This is in line with Section One. It shows where Congress intended the flood waters of the Colorado River to be used when stored, to-wit: in the United States of America.

I am advised that the Reclamation Bureau has conducted extensive surveys and studies during the past several years to carry out the mandate of this section and that its report is now ready. I have not read the

report. I understand that it is marked "confidential", but the substance of it has been given in preview statements to the so-called Committee of 14. From such statements I am lead to believe that there are more feasible projects in the United States capable of using Colorado River water than there is water available if it were all stored and conserved. Considering the great needs of our own country, I ask you should we not be just to our own people before being generous to the people of a foreign country.

NOTE 11 Section 20 reads:

> "Nothing in this Act shall be construed as a denial or recognition of any rights, if any, in Mexico to the use of the waters of the Colorado System."

This Section puts the final quietus on the contention of the proponents that the Colorado River Compact apportioned any water to Mexico. The Compact was ineffectual for any purpose until picked up and approved in Section 13 of the Boulder Canyon Project Act. Yet in the last Section of the same Act is the expres repudiation of the contention that anything in the Act should be construed as a recognition of any rights in Mexico to use the waters of the Colorado River System.

BOULDER CANYON PROJECT ADJUSTMENT ACT

In 1939 Congress passed the Boulder Canyon Project Adjustment Act. It did not change any of the provisions of substantitivve laws contained in the original Act, but merely adjusted some of the financial arrangements to better meet developments since the enactment of the original law.

The repayment of that portion of the costs allocated to flood control to-wit: $25,000,000 was postponed until after the 50 year period within which the remainder of the costs must be returned to the Treasury of the United States. The interest rates on the money advanced by the Government was reduced from the original rate of 4% to 3% per annum. The payments to the States of Arizona and Nevada of 18 3/4% of the excess revenues in lieu of taxes was converted into a fixed annual charge of $300,000 to each State and a further payment of $500,000 a year was made available for surveys throughout the Colorado River

Basin for ascertainment of feasible projects and to prepare a comprehensive plan for the development of these projects as called for by Section 15 of the Boulder Canyon Project Act, and the remainder of the money to apply on the construction of such projects, the Upper Basin States to have the use of this money for the first 15 years, thereafter to be available for construction of projects throughout the Basin generally.

The charges for water for generating electricity were still to be fixed at rates which would insure the repayment to the Government of its total expenditures within a 50 year period with the exception only of the flood control charges which would be repaid thereafter. The adjustments authorized by the Act made it possible to reduce the rate from 1.63 to 1.13. Such an adjustment "to meet competitive conditions", was authorized in the original Act at the end of 15 years. The Adjustment Act merely advances the date of the readjustment. For the purpose of considering the conflict between the proposed Mexican Treaty and the Boulder Canyon Project Act, the Adjustment Act makes no material changes.

CALIFORNIA LIMITATIONS ACT.

Pursuant to the provisions and requirements of Section 4(a) of the Boulder Canyon Project Act, California by an Act of its Legislature agreed to limit all uses of water in the State of California from the Colorado River so that they would not exceed 4,400,000 acre-feet of water apportioned to the Lower Basin States by Article III(a) of the Compact plus not more than 1/2 of the excess or surplus waters unapportioned by said compact. The California Limitation Act was adopted in the identical language of the Boulder Canyon Project Act which made it "an express covenant" and an agreement " in consideration of the passage of" the Boulder Canyon Project Act.

California will claim and advance sound argument to the effect that the Boulder Canyon Project Act and California Limitation Act do not constitute a statutory compact. The consideration for the passage of the Limitation Act was the going into effect of the Boulder Canyon Project Act, with the express terms that its stored waters were "for reclamation of Public Lands and other beneficial uses exclusively within the United States . Also that the Boulder Canyon Project Act provided that "Contracts respecting water for irrigation and domestic uses shall be for permanent services" California will assert that but for these

provisions in that Act it would not have adopted the Limitation Act, because these provisions assured California the full quantity of water called for by her contracts.

CALIFORNIA IS NOT ESTOPPED TO COMPLAIN OF THE MEXICAN TREATY MERELY BECAUSE CALIFORNIA'S CONTRACTS PROVIDE THE DELIVERIES OF WATER ARE SUBJECT TO THE AVAILABILITY THEREOF FOR USE IN CALIFORNIA UNDER THE COLORADO RIVER COMPACT AND FOR THE BOULDER CANYON PROJECT ACT.

It is contended that because the contracts made by the United States with communities and States for the delivery of Colorado River water provide that the deliveries were to be made "subject to availability thereof for use in California under the Colorado River Compact and the Boulder Canyon Project Act", therefore these communities were charged with knowledge of the terms of the Compact relating to Mexico's claims and accepted their contracts for Colorado River water subject to whatever right the United States might, as a matter of international comity, thereafter recognize in Mexico. Article III(c) of the Compact provides that in the event of such recognition of a Mexican right, the Mexican water should first be taken from the surplus over and abofe the 16,000,000 acre-feet per annum disposed of by the Compact, but if such surplus should prove insufficient then the deficiency should be supplied equally by the upper and lower basins. The contention is made that "since the Compact was ratified by the Boulder Canyon Project Act any contracts made under that Act were subject to reduction in the amount of water promised as might prove necessary to meet Treaty obligations and that California by accepting the contracts agreed to such reductions.

I. The Colorado River Compact was modified in several important particulars by the Boulder Canyon Project Act,

1. The Act changed the Compact from a Seven (7) State agrement (required by Art XI of the Compact) into a Six (6) State Agreement, making "said Compact binding and obligatory. . . . . when the State of California and at least five of the other States mentioned shall have approved or may hereafter approve said Compact." (Section 13 (a) of Boulder Canyon Project Act.)

2. The Act changed the "priority rating" of navigation from that of last importance given to it by Article IV (a) of the Compact to that of first importance given to it by Section 6 of the Boulder Canyon Project Act.

3. If it were to be assumed that the Compact recognized in Mexico any right to Colorado River and made provision for the delivery of unlimited water to that country then the Act emphatically changed all that, at least so far as "salvaged" or stored water was concerned.

(a) Section 20 of the Boulder Canyon Project Act declares the purpose and intent of that Act with reference to Mexico; "Nothing in this Act (and that must include the Compact because its terms are approved in Section 13) shall be construed as a denial or recognition of any rights, if any, in Mexico to the use of the waters of the Colorado River System."

(b) Section 6 of the Boulder Canyon Project Act in its first sentence sets out the uses to which the Boulder Dam and reservoir shall be put and it is significant that in the listing of the various uses for which its stored waters may be used, not a word can be found about water to be given Mexico or the use of the Dam and reservoir for that performance of any treaty obligations.

(c) Finally Section 1 of the Boulder Canyon Project Act declares that the building of Boulder Dam is authorized "for storage and for the delivery of the stored waters thereof for reclamation of public lands and other beneficial uses exclusively within the United States

4. The drafters and signers of the Compact did not intend or contemplate that Mexico would ever be given rights to "stored" water TO THE INJURY of the water users for whose benefit the Dams were constructed.

(a) The only place where a Dam is mentioned in the Compact is in Article VIII and there the Dam is dedicated to meeting and satisfying the claims of American appropriators or users of water in the lower basin.

(b) Mr. Hoover in January, 1923, soon after the Compact was drafted and signed at Santa Fe, New Mexico, declared in answer to written questions propounded to him by then Representative and now Senator Hayden: (See the Hoover Dam Contracts p.p. 396-397), said that

no apportionment was made to Mexico by the Compact and no rights to Colorado River water ware recognized in Mexico.

Relying on this interpretation of the compact by the Chairman of the Commission, who was the Federal representative, Congress subsequently approved the compact. And also relying upon this interpretation of the Compact, California communities and the States of Arizona and Nevada accepted contracts containing the language "subject to availability under the Colorado River Compact."

5. The drafters and sponsors of the Boulder Canyon Project Act did not intend or contemplate that Mexico should ever be given rights to any of the "stored waters" of Boulder Dam.

In the Senate:

(a) Senator Pittman, during the debate on the Boulder Canyon Project Act, said in the Senate:

> MR. PITTMAN: ". . .The natural flow of that river today will not irrigate any more than 240,000 acres of land in Mexico. That is all it will irrigate. I think it is recognized policy of Congress- -certainly it is recognized in the very opening paragraph of this bill- - that the comity between nations does not call upon the United States to furnish to Mexico any water that has accumulated in the United States, through expenditures made in the United States. If this dam is never built, if there is no water impounded on that river, Mexico a thousand years from now will be where Mexico is today with regard to irrigation in Mexico.
>
> "The Committee added those words 'within the United States' for the very purpose of declaring the policy of Congress and of this Government if and when this legislation becomes a law. There is no question as to what Congress will mean by that if they pass the bill. They will mean exactly the same thing those governors desire.
>
> " We will assume, however, as a violent conclusion that the Secretary of State of the United States would enter into a treaty with Mexico, giving then many times the amount of water to which they were entitled, from the natural flow of this river, and, to do so should attempt to injure some vested rights in this country, to take away from people the use of water they had been legally using for irrigation.
>
> "That treaty would have to come to this body for ratification before it would ever be a treaty. It would take two-thirds of this body to ratify it. It is totally inconceivable, if we pass this bill, which states that all of the impounded water above the natural flow shall be used exclusively in the United States, that they would ratify any such treaty. They would have just as much right to say to Mexico then, as they would have if we would pass such a resolution as the Senator from Utah has read:
> ' You never had any right under the comity of nations to the stored waters of our country. Your rights were solely limited to the natural flow and the use to which you put the natural flow. Then, in addition to that, the Congress of the United States passed a

bill

public act in which they stated to you and the rest of the world that all of this impounded water was to be used exclusively in the United States. You and your citizens had notice of it. you cannot complain that you are now injured because you took no notice of it.'

"There is not a chance in the world of Mexico ever getting anything except that which she is morally entitled to under the comity of nations, and we know just what that is" (See Cong. Record-Vol. 70 Part 1, p.p. 337-338)

MR. KING "".....As a legal proposition I think the Senator is right, and we could say to Mexico, 'You have no right to water stored in the United States. You know when you used water flowing from the dam that there was a compact between the States, ratified by them and concurred in by the United States, under the terms of which 7,000,000 acre-feet were allocated to the States above, and that they have claimed and still assert title to the same.

' It may be they were not prompt in applying the water to which they were entitled, but is theirs and no claim of laches or delay or prescription may be asserted to deprive them of their rights." (See Cong. Record--Vol. 70, Part 1. p. 339).

The PRESIDING OFFICER: "The Clerk will state the amendment."

THE LEGISLATIVE CLERK: "As a new section at the end of the bill insert the following: "Sec. 16. Nothing in this act shall be construed as a denial or recognition of any rights, if any, in Mexico to the use of the waters of the Colorado River System."

MR. KING: "My understanding has been that some amendment would be offered which would be an admonition to Mexico that the waters of the Colorado River are claimed and have been claimed by the United States, unless, perhaps, the limited quantity heretofore used for beneficial purposes in the Republic of Mexico."

MPHIPPS: "May I call the attention of the Senator from Utah to the language in section 1 of the bill which provides that the water shall be used exclusively within the United States."

MR. KING: " Iam familiar with that. But let me ask the Senator from California, does not this amendment which he has just offered confirm, or is it not a recognition of, the claims of Mexico to water already used, or which she claims to have used in Mexico?"

MR. JOHNSON: "Specifically, no."

MR. KING: " I would not be in favor of any amendment which would indicate that we concede any right to Mexico to use the waters of the Colorado River.

MR. JOHNSON: "I quite agree with the Senator from Utah" (See Cong. Record--Vol. 70, Part 1, p. 593).

(b) In the House during the debate on the Act:

MR. SWING: its author, said: "May I say on that point that a very famous decision was rendered by Judson Harmon, one of the great Attorney Generals of the United States, which holds there is no such thing as an international water right and that the lower country, no matter how long they put the water to a beneficial use, cannot compel a sovereign upper state to refrain from using its own water in its own country under its own laws." (Cong. Record Vol. 69, Part 9, p.9492, May 23, 1928)

MR. SMITH: Chairman of the House Committee on Irrigation and & Reclamation, and who reported the bill said: "It was brought out in the hearings by legal authorities that the United States owns and controls the water falling within its own boundaries. Mexico has no particular right to the water, but after the United States has secured physical control of the water by this development doubtless it will let down sufficmicient water to irrigate lands in Mexico now irrigated.....When we build the All-American Canal and bring the water to our own borders we plan to continue that (deliver water for the land Mexico had previously cultivated) but not recognizing any right in them to use additiona water." (Cong. Record--Vol. 68, Part 3, p.3075, Feb 5, 1927)

MR. WAINWRIGHT: "Sould not Mexico be entitled to the entire flow of the river unimpeded?"

MR. SMITH : "No. Because the water rises in the United States and the people of the United States by reason of the fact have the first right to the waters. The fact that Mexico has been using the water would undoubtedly influence our Government to accede to their request that they be permitted to continue to use that [illegible] quantity of water but it is a question whether they could enforce such a right under the law of nations."

MR. LA GUARDIA: "And they surely would not have any claim, in response to the inquiry of the gentlemen from New York, to any increased amount of flowage as the result of our own work in our own country." (Cong. Record--Vol. 69, Part 9, p.9492, May 22, 1928)

(c) Relying upon the language of the Boulder Canyon Project Act and upon the interpretations of the Act by its sponsors, California communities and the States of Arizona and Nevada accepted contracts containing the language "subject to availability under the Colorado River Compact and the Boulder Canyon Project Act."

6. Any conflict between the Compact and the Act should be received in favor of the Act.

(a) The Act was last in point of time as to drafting and clearly indicates, as already shown in preceding paragraphs 1,2, and 3, an intention to modigy some of the provisions of the Compact, especially by the limitation of the use of "stored water" to projects "exclusively within the United States."

(b) On the matter of conflict between the Compact and the Act on the subject of navigation, the United States Supreme Court declared in Arizona v. California et al (263 U. S. 423, 456):

> "But the Act specified that the dam shall be used; first, for river regulations, improvement of navigation and flood control; second, for irrigation and domestic uses and satisfaction of [illegible] present perfected rights, and third, for power. It is true that the authority conferred is stated to be 'subject to the Colorado River Compact' and that instrument makes the [illegible] (improvement of navigation subservient to all other purposes. But the specific statement of primary purpose in the Act governs the general references to the Compact.

By like reasoning the specific and definite statement ' .
in the Act directing that "stored water" of Boulder Dam should be used"exclusively within the United States# must prevail over any general reference found in the Compact which might seem to imply a contrary intention or purpose that such water might be available for Mexico.

METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT

DURATEX FOLDER
MED. HEAVY WEIGHT

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ADDRESS BY W. P. WHITSETT BEFORE
CALIFORNIA REAL ESTATE ASSOCIATION 15th. DISTRICT
CONFERENCE AT GLENDALE MARCH 10, 1928.

We are entering upon an epic of travel, heralded by the remarkable feats of Col. Lindbergh, by the construction of great national highway systems, and by the reduction of running time by our transcontinental railways -- accomplishments which reflect the spirit of the times.

The whole nation is on the move, and that move is westward. Since time began the course of civilization has been westward, but never in our history has that move_ment been as rapid as in the last quarter century -- and it is only now gathering its real mementum.

Less than 8½% of the 120,000,000 people living in the United States reside on the Pacific Coast, which is the most comfortable and economical part of the country to live in. Over 500,000 tourists visit California each year, and more than 10% of this number remain as permanent residents. The population of California is increased by tourists alone, more than 50,000 annually, and no class profits more by this influx than the real estate men.

The ever-increasing number of people that are moving westward will find California the most desirable place on the Pacific Coast. By reason of its climate, they will find Southern California the fastest-growing section. They will find Los Angeles the best and most prosperous portion of Southern California, and I don't need to argue why.

They will find the San Fernando Valley the "Better-half", the "Brightest" spot in the Los Angeles White Spot, because San Fernando Valley is the "watering hole" of the Southland, by reason of the Owens River Acqueduct water, the comparative high average rainfall on the floor of the Valley in addition to the runoff from over 500 square miles of mountainous water shed surrounding the Valley where the rainfall is much greater. Much of this runoff will soon by conserved by the Pacoima Dam, now nearing completion and we must now turn our attention to the construction of a dam in the Big Tujunga. And in conjunction with it, there is an excellent proposal

to transform the Tujunga Wash into a park and playground, with municipal golf courses, bridle paths and recreational features for the pleasure of all the people of the whole City of Los Angeles. This park should provide ample spreading basins to sink this water when gradually released from control reservoirs into the gravels to be used in time of greatest need, thus converting the least desirable land of the Valley into a beauty spot which would aid in conserving water and greatly enhance adjacent values.

Much of Los Angeles' second million population is going to settle in San Fernando Valley because of available water, but this water must be kept in garden agricultural use until needed for domestic purposes. There is no other way to hold this water in reserve for growth.

California, South of the Tehachapi, embraces 20% of the area fitted for human habitation, but only a little more than 1% of the State's waters, exclusive of the Colorado River, are tributary thereto.

On the other hand, by the end of 1928, more than 50% of the population of the entire State will be living in Southern California, with only 1% of the State's tributary waters to support it.

In the face of these facts, we don't sell land, we sell water, There is little land in Southern California which we could afford to pay taxes on without knowing there will be water available to put the parcels to the ultimate economic use to which they are best adopted. If it is water that we are selling, instead of land, then let us get busy and get more water. The Boulder Canyon Dam must be started now, if our present rate of growth is not retarded ten years hence on account of water shortage.

WHT
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ADDRESS BY W. P. WHITSETT BEFORE
CALIFORNIA REAL ESTATE ASSOCIATION 15th. DISTRICT
CONFERENCE AT GLENDALE MARCH 10, 1928.

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With the cost of power at Boulder Dam at 3 mills and with the additional cost of transmission lines together with interest, carrying charges and amortization, it will cost about 2 cents per 100 cubic feet for all pumping necessary on either the Picacho or Blythe Route.

The per capita consumption of water in Los Angeles is 125 gallons per day, or less than 17 cubic feet per person. With these figures as a basis, engineers estimate that it will cost three mills per day per person to lift the water from the Colorado River to Los Angeles, less than 10¢ per month or about $1 per capita per year.

No body of men ever faced a more basic work--no body of men ever faced as deep a responsibility to their State, to their families and to posterity.

The Romans so built their aqueducts that several of them are in use to this day. We Californians have already built the Los Angeles aqueduct, the greatest engineering work of its kind in the world. We built it within the estimated time and within the estimated cost. It is now meeting successfully the purpose for which it was constructed.

Backed by our experience in this undertaking, we are prepared to go forward with confidence in the construction of the greatest aqueduct of all time--a work that should stand, almost until the curtain of time rolls back. Benefits will accrue to generation after generation and the beneficence should be widespread upon the coastal plain.

Paved highways, automobiles and airplanes have made outlying territories easily accessible to centers of population. The water of the Colorado River aqueduct will help in the diffusion of population over Southern California.

This undertaking is a challenge to each of us. We should meet it unselfishly with a desire to serve. Never before has there been an opportunity to build so great an empire in the same length of time, where so many determining factors can be known.

Can we not here at the start let it be distinctly understood and the principle be firmly maintained that no element of political frailty, or incompetancy be allowed to obstruct the most superior work of them all--the Colorado River Aqueduct?

Our ancient forebears, back hundreds of years before the start of the Christian Era made pipes of lead, hollow wood, and hollowed stone. Without the engineering instruments based on optical glass, they built aqueducts. Some of their works have endured to this day through the turmoils of wars, earthquakes and erosion.

We will cross desert and canyon, and tunnel through mountains of solid rock to bring a river of life to this Coastal Plain.

The Colorado River aqueduct will have a capacity of 1500 second feet of water as compared to the 400 second feet capacity of the Los Angeles aqueduct. The Colorado River aqueduct will supply the domestic needs of 5,500,000 people, who will bring with them and create over Ten Billion Dollars in assessable wealth, in much shorter time than we anticipate.

Four routes are under consideration for the Colorado River aqueduct. I submit here a few brief figures about each of the routes under consideration:

1. The Blythe Route.
   - Distance 259 miles,
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2. Bridge Canyon Gravity Route:
   - Distance 372 miles,
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   - Distance 343 miles,
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   - Next longest tunnel 15 miles.

4. Picacho Route:
   - Distance 243 miles,
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The cost of construction on the most favorable route is estimated at about $150,000,000. The Colorado River aqueduct will be by far the largest aqueduct in the world. The per capita cost of contructing the Colorado River aqueduct will be about $100 per capita based on our present population.

WHT

FEBRUARY 25, 1929.

By W. P. WHITSETT

(Chairman of Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, Commissioner of Water & Power of the City of Los Angeles.)

Aqueducts, ancient and modern, in the arid lands bordering the Mediteranean, stand as monuments to civilization's recorded advance. Culture and achievement have been cradled and nurtured in lands of little rain where men struggled for positions in the sun.

Our Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, is organized to blaze the trail into newer regions on a greater scale--for this more wonderful civilization that we now enjoy. Industry, science and progress have substituted motors for slaves and placed implements in our hands which make easy the construction of these greater works, at least as durable as those of the ancients. History tells us that the Greek water works were much inferior to the Roman.

Sextus Julius Frontinus appointed water commissioner in Rome in 97 A. D., in discussing the aqueducts of Rome, wrote the following:

"The necessity of repairs arises from the following reasons: Damage is done either by the lawlessness of abutting proprietors, by age, by violent storms, by defects in the original construction, and has happened quite frequently in recent works.

"As a rule those parts of the aqueducts which are carried on arches or are placed on side-hills and of those on arches, the parts that cross rivers, suffer most from the effects of age or of violent storms. These therefore must be put in order with care and dispatch. The underground portions, not being subjected to either heat or frost are less liable to injury. Defects are either of the sort that can be remedied without stopping the flow of water, or such as cannot be made without diverting the flow, as, for example, those which have to be made in the channel itself.

"The suitable time for masonry work is from April 1, to November 1, but with this restriction, that the work would best be interrupted during the hottest part of the summer because moderate weather is necessary for the masonry properly to absorb the mortar, and to solidify into one compace mass; for excessive heat of the sun is no less destructive then frost to masonry. Honesty in all details of the work must be insisted upon."

WHT
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February 25, 1929.

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Mrs. Holloway Presents W. P. Whitsett, Speaker—

The monthly conference of the Community Service department of Los Angeles district, Federated Women's clubs was held at headquarters on South Hobart street yesterday with Mrs. Bert Richard Holloway of Van Nuys, district chairman, presiding.

Mrs. Holloway introduced to the club women as main speaker of the day, W. P. Whitsett of Van Nuys, president of the Metropolitan Water board. The talk, which was one of the most instructive and interesting of the year, covered the subject, "What the Metropolitan Water District Aqueduct Means to Southern California." There were thirty chairmen present, each representing a club in this district.

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WHAT THE METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT AQUEDUCT MEANS TO SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

By

W. P. Whitsett
Chairman of The Metropolitan Water District

(Delivered to the Community Service Division of the Los Angeles District of the Federation of Women's Clubs on December 4, 1930)

Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen:

Some time ago Mrs. Holloway requested that as Chairman of The Metropolitan Water District I address this Conference on the Value of Water and Its Importance to the Growth of Population in Southern California, particularly with regard to the Importance of an Additional Supply from an Outside Source. It is my purpose to discuss briefly the evolution of our water supply problems in Southern California; our present situation with respect to water supply; and what the bringing in of an additional supply from the Colorado River will mean to the future of Southern California.

To thoroughly understand water conditions in Southern California at the present time, we should know the experience of the past. This area in which we live is a part of the great American Desert which stretches far to the East across Arizona and New Mexico. Its problems are those of the desert and the most important of them is water supply. Through the ingenuity of man the desert has been pushed back and the delightful area between the mountains and the sea, designated as the Metropolitan Area of Southern California, has been made to bloom and flourish. Beyond the mountains still exists the original desert

which proved such a tremendous obstacle to the westward advance of pioneers into this area. As long as there has been life in this part of the world, water supply has determined its existence. In a recent conversation with Secretary of the Interior Dr. Ray Lyman Wilbur, he told me out of his abundant scientific knowledge, some interesting and astounding facts. We were at the time discussing water supply conditions in the Pacific Southwest and he pointed out that all the great beasts whose remains are housed in museums at Exposition Park, perished as species for lack of water. Some great physical changes took place which caused the climate to become very much dryer. Just what these changes were we do not know. But we do know that of all the various forms of life whose remains have been preserved in the La Brea asphalt pits, the only one which survives at the present time is the little pocket gopher. This little animal, living as it does underground, and subsisting on the roots of plants and the moisture which accumulates in its burrows, was adapted to the resistance of drought, when those that roamed the surface and depended upon vegetation for food, and springs and streams for drink, died.

I do not believe that these facts indicate that the climate of Southern California is becoming dryer, but it does indicate the importance of rainfall to animal life in desert regions.

Since the coming of the white man the history of this region, particularly in its economic phases, has been expressed

in terms of water supply. The missions were established by the Padres near flowing streams. They planted their grain in the moist valleys. In the mission gardens the seeds and cuttings transported from Mexico and Spain grew and flourished with careful watering in a way that astounded the simple mission Fathers. However, the dryness of climate, and the limited markets discouraged agriculture, while the open rolling hills, on which the grass grew luxuriantly after the winter rains, were conditions ideal for cattle raising. The horses and cattle imported by the Spaniards soon multiplied into enormous herds. Their increase, however, eventually overtaxed the meager water resources then available, with the result that at intervals a succession of droughts occurred causing either by thirst or by slaughter, the death of thousands of cattle and horses.

The great drought which occurred during the years 1862 and 1863 was so dreadful in its destructive effects as to practically put an end to stock raising in Southern California.

Beginning about that time attempts were made at dry farming which proved moderately successful. It was during the latter part of the last century that the San Fernando Valley produced its great crops of hay and grain. Dry farming came to an end with the discovery that the underground gravel beds were filled with water which had accumulated through the ages. The water became available by the development of improved well-drilling methods and the perfection of pumping machinery. Also, the science of irrigation took a long step forward when the industrious

gringo discovered what the mission Fathers had known so well -- that water applied to the fertile soil, under the warm sun of Southern California, produced magnificent fruit in abundant yields.

The story to the present time under the stimulation of improved irrigation practice, has been one of rapid expansion of orchards and farms. This expansion is still going on. During the past eight years, 21,000 additional acres have been planted each year in the Santa Ana basin to citrus fruit alone. The result is naturally and inevitably just what might be expected. Our meager rainfall, which is only from one-third to one-fourth of that in other large centers of population, has not been adequate to keep up with the demands. The amount of rain which falls on the valleys and mountains during our short winters and percolates into the underground gravels, is not sufficient to restore the quantity that is pumped from the wells. While a great part of the requirement for water in this area is for agricultural purposes, a tremendous supply is also needed for domestic use in homes and to maintain the gardens for which our land is famed. Most of you have witnessed, or are familiar with the growth of the City of Los Angeles, which expanded from a population of 104,000 in 1900 to 1,323,000 people in 1930. In order to supply the multiplying population, an aqueduct 250 miles long was built in 1912 to bring water from the High Sierras. However, in spite of this additional contribution to our local resources, the consumption now exceeds the total supply by 50

second feet. This shortage at present is an amount of water sufficient to irrigate 25,000 acres or to supply 250,000 people for a year. The shortage stated has been determined by Mr. Harold Conkling, Chief of the Division of Water Resources of the State of California, after an exhaustive investigation. The shortage which I have stated, of course, is being made up by drawing out of our underground basins, water that has accumulated there during all the ages of the past. The inevitable result has been a continual lowering of the water level in the wells until at the present time in many places throughout Southern California water is being pumped from the astounding depth of 350 and more, feet. The annual increase in consumption due to the increase in population and in citrus acreage, and due to the fact that the basins become narrower as they go down, the rate of lowering has become greater each succeeding year. If this continues, we will eventually reach the point where 25,000 acres must be abandoned, or 250,000 people must be asked to leave each year, unless an additional supply is obtained from a source outside of Southern California.

As the water table continues to lower below the level of the sea we are faced with the danger of salt water flowing inland to destroy whatever supply remains. The County Flood Control Engineer recently reported that 45 square miles in the vicinity of Los Angeles has been encroached upon by salt water from the Pacific Ocean. If our underground basins, on which so many of the cities of Southern California depend, are exhausted,

or the water is rendered unfit for use by salt, before new supplies can be brought in from an outside source, the destruction of property values will be enormous.

The Metropolitan Water District has been assigned the task of bringing in a new supply sufficient for the needs of Southern California for a great many years. Engineers of the District have investigated all possible sources in the territory surrounding Southern California. As a result of their studies, the Colorado River has been determined the only source capable of supplying a large quantity of water, to which an aqueduct can be built at a reasonable cost. The engineering surveys have been in progress for six years. Our Chief Engineer, Mr. F. E. Weymouth, has just now concluded his investigations as to the most feasible and economic route and method of bringing water into this area. Within the next few months a final selection of a route will be made. Shortly thereafter the matter will be referred to the voters for their approval of the bond issue necessary to finance this great undertaking. At such a time the District must look to all of the leaders and forward-looking people of Southern California, the women of whom are so well represented here today. We must look to you people with vision to assist in carrying on for Southern California. Through your cooperation the important facts about the water supply conditions can be brought home to our people who do not have an opportunity to learn about them.

The coming to Southern California of Colorado River

water, which we hope may be brought here soon enough to avert the disaster of a severe drought, will mean a sense of security and stability against the threat of the desert.

The Colorado River is a magnificent stream over 1700 miles long, rising in the heart of the Rocky Mountains. Down its channel flow the rains and melted snows of an area of 244,000 square miles. By drawing from a watershed so great and so diversified, we can eliminate the danger of a great local drought affecting Southern California and the Owens Valley.

Southern California is a land of destiny. It is in places such as this that the great civilizations of the world have been fostered and have matured. In Egypt, in Mesopotamia, in Greece, the outstanding civilizations of the ancient world developed in the warm sunshine of the desert where abundant water supplies were available. Southern California is due to become another such center of civilization. It is in places such as this that people long to live. Throughout the United States, particularly in the places where the winters are bitter, eyes are turned on Southern California. The only limitations to our population are the capacity of the region to supply labor and an adequate water supply. On the security which will follow the bringing of Colorado River water to Southern California by The Metropolitan Water District Aqueduct, will rise up a civilization in all respects finer and greater than any in the past. We are gathering here great industries and are expanding our commerce to all corners of the world. From these will flow

great wealth, and wealth has always been the patron of culture, of the arts and the sciences.

Even now Southern California has become the gathering place of men of genius; scientists, artists, and men of letters. Our claims to culture are supported by our magnificent public buildings, by our superb schools, and by the beauty of our homes and gardens. It is to preserve these and continue the growth so far splendidly achieved that we must preserve the present and safeguard the future by bringing to Southern California an abundance of water from the Colorado River.

WHT
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A SUMMARY OF THE METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT PROJECT

By

W. P. Whitsett

Prepared for presentation to the Members of the Water and Power Resources Committee of the Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce on October 28, 1930

At the request of Chairman Wheeler, I have prepared a statement covering the past activities of The Metropolitan Water District, and its program for the immediate future.

The District is now approaching the end of its second year, having been incorporated in December, 1928. The District is organized for the purpose of developing, storing, and distributing a water supply to the metropolitan area of Southern California. The physical area deemed to be a natural part of The Metropolitan Water District, extends from Santa Monica to East of San Bernardino, and from the Sierra Madre Mountains possibly as far south as Newport Beach.

At the present time there are eleven cities in the District: Anaheim and Santa Ana in Orange County; San Bernardino and Colton in San Bernardino County; and San Marino, Pasadena, Santa Monica, Burbank, Glendale, Beverly Hills, and Los Angeles in Los Angeles County. The cities of Ontario, Torrance and Fullerton have made application to join and will submit the proposition to their voters in the near future.

The necessity for an additional supply of water from a source outside ofSouthern California was emphasized by the drought of 1924. At that time the Colorado River Aqueduct Association was organized with Hiram W. Wadsworth as Chairman. It was through the

Colorado River Aqueduct Association that the Metropolitan Water District Act was introduced and passed by the State Legislature in 1927. After the Enabling Act was passed, the organization of the District was conducted by the City of Pasadena, and included the eleven cities first named.

HISTORY OF THE PROJECT

The necessity of bringing water to Southern California from the Colorado River was realized many years ago by William Mulholland, former Chief Engineer of the Department of Water and Power. In 1923 he made a personal reconnaissance of the region between Los Angeles and the Colorado River, with this in mind. Two years later, in 1925, the people of Los Angeles approved a $2,000,000 bondissue for the purpose of beginning the undertaking. The responsibility of starting the survey was assigned to the Department of Water and Power, The Metropolitan Water District not having yet come into existence.

After a careful investigation, the engineers determined that there were five points on the Colorado River at which it was feasible to build diversion structures. These varied from the Picacho near the mouth of the river, to the Bridge Canyon site about 400 miles upstream. The problem of building an aqueduct from any of these diversion points to Los Angeles involved the crossing of an unmapped area of mountains and desert. Before it was possible to make any estimates, it was necessary to survey 30,000 square miles of unchartered wilderness. The preliminary work of mapping, estimating, exploring, and analyzing geology, has been

carried on for over five years.

The Metropolitan WaterDistrict was organized in 1928 and immediately took over the direction of the work. Mr. Frank E. Weymouth was induced to take the position of Chief Engineer. He is undoubtedly the most qualified man in the world for the task. While Chief Engineer of the United States Reclamation Service, he wrote the Weymouth Report, consisting of four or five bound volumes recommending that the Boulder Dam be built at its present designated location. He has done engineering work throughout North andSouth America, having built over 40 dams. Just previous to his employment by the District, he was Chief Engineer for the J. G. White Corporation, which built a number of reclamation projects for the Government of Mexico, and was on his way to take charge of a gigantic project in Russia when employed by The Metropolitan Water District.

With the approval of the Board of Directors, Mr. Weymouth has built up an engineering organization which could not be duplicated in the United States. Upon his staff is Mr. Julian Hinds, who is considered one of the world's authorities on questions of hydraulic design. There is Mr. James Munn, Chief of Construction, who has had charge of numerous great projects throughout the United States, and recently completed the construction of the Mokelumne Aqueduct for the East Bay Municipal Utility District. There is Mr. J. B. Bond, Chief Field Engineer, who was at one time Topographer for the United States Geological Survey, and hasbeen connected with flood control projects in China and irrigation investigations in Mexico. The Hydrographic work is under the direction of Mr. C. C. Elder,

who has been engaged in stream measurements and hydrographic reports throughout the West and Mexico for a number of years. The Electrical and Mechanical work is under the direction of Mr. James M. Gaylord as Chief Electrical Engineer. Mr. Gaylord is recognized as an outstanding authority in his line and his services were obtained by special arrangements with the Southern California Edison Company.

The District obtained its first income from the tax levy of 1929-1930, and began spending its own money about a year ago. On the first of May of this year a complete separation was effected between the Department of Water and Power and The Metropolitan Water District. There remained at the time of separation, a balance of $253,000 in the bond fund of 1925.

A year ago Chief Engineer Weymouth rendered a preliminary report covering his work up to that time. For the purpose of analyzing this report, and of making an independent investigation and recommendations, the Directors of the District selected a Board of Review composed of three outstanding engineers. The men selected were Thaddeus Merriman, Chief Engineer of the Board of Water Supply of the City of New York; Richard R. Lyman, Consulting Engineer of Salt Lake City; and A. J. Wiley, ConsultingEngineer of Boise, Idaho. They were chosen from engineers outside of Southern California in order to obtain a report from mem who were unprejudiced and who would bring a fresh point of view and criticism to the work.

The District submitted to this Board of Review studies on 66 different routes from the Colorado River. After careful

investigation, including many trips across the desert, they recommended that all but four lines be eliminated, and that special and revised studies be made upon those indicated. The Engineering Staff of the District has been engaged in this work since the first of the year and are now ready to submit a second report to the Boardof Review, which will come to Southern California about the middle of next month.

The Metropolitan Water District has maintained a policy of rigid economy. No employees have been put on the payroll that were not absolutely needed, nor who had not previously demonstrated their capacity to do the work assigned to them. Following out this policy, the District has been very cautious in expanding its organization so as to avoid unnecessary expense. The Department of Water and Power is furnishing floor space at the very reasonable rental of 12¢ per net square foot per month. For some time the condition has existed whereby any further additions to the staff would require more room than was available at the present location. Consequently, offices have been subdivided and in some instances three or four men are making use of space usually assigned to two. The result has been to give the District very high value for the money expended.

The Treasury Department of the District has been organized with Mr. Charles H. Toll, First Vice-President of theSecurity-First National Bank, as Treasurer. Mr. Toll was drafted to the position and serves without compensation.

The Accounting Department of the District has been placed under the charge of Mr. J. M. Luney, who is establishing not only

a system of general accounts, but also an exact system to keep a running check on the engineering costs. Mr. Luney is eminently qualified for this work, having established numerous systems on engineering projects throughout the United States. He was also engaged for a number of years by the United States Government at Washington, D. C., where he installed systems for the various governmental departments, such as the Engineering Department of the United States Army, which has an annual budget of about $50,000,000 a year.

The big event in the history of the District was the negotiation of contracts for water and power with the United States Government, which were executed last spring. Under the terms of the Boulder Canyon Project Act, the Secretary of the Interior is required to have in his possession before construction can start on the Hoover Dam, executed contracts, which in his judgment would be sufficient to repay to the Government the money advanced, with interest at 4%. In the contract for water, the United States agreed to store and deliver to The Metropolitan Water District, not to exceed 1,050,000 acre feet per year at the rate of 25¢ per acre foot. The District's contract for power is an obligation to take and pay for 36% of the firm power to be generated at Hoover Dam, at the rate of 1.63 mills per kilowatt hour for falling water. In addition to the foregoing, the District has first right on all the secondary power, at the extremely low rate of .5 mills per kilowatt hour. This power will be necessary in the event the District finds a route involving a pump lift the most economical, due consideration being

given to both first cost and annual cost of operation.

While the District is most desirous of obtaining a gravity route, it was necessary to subscribe to the power at the time it was available. Every effort is still being made to obtain the advantages of a gravity route, but it must be emphasized that the District must make its selection purely on the basis of the best economic and engineering principles. Our determined purpose is to find the best, safest, and cheapest route.

The execution of these contracts by the District, and corresponding contracts by the Department of Water and Power and the Southern California Edison Company, has paved the way for the beginning of the Boulder Canyon Project. As you know, $10,660,000 was appropriated by the last session of Congress after a bitter fight, and the ceremony inaugurating the project was held the 17th of last month at Las Vegas.

In further establishing its claims to water from the Colorado River, the District has filed various applications with the Division of Water Resources of the State of California, and with the Federal Power Commission. Also, agreements have been negotiated with the agricultural interests, who have been using Colorado River water for many years. An agreement was reached whereby the District was accorded the right to 550,000 acre feet of Class A water, and 550,000 acre feet from the Class B water, as against the rights of the agricultural group. In the interpretation of this agreement by the agricultural group, a misunderstanding arose which necessitated a supplementary agreement whereby the agricultural

group conceded to The Metropolitan Water District the right to store in the Boulder Dam Reservoir, for the exclusive use of the District, the unused portion of its allocation up to a total of 5,000,000 acre feet. This arrangement has great advantages to the District in protecting Southern California against long periods of drought. The working details of this arrangement have been submitted to the Federal Government and are now being worked out.

ACTIVITIES OF THE DISTRICT AT THE PRESENT TIME

At the present time the District is engaged in making its final surveys. The work on the aqueduct routes is practically complete. Numerous details, such as finding storage facilities in Southern California, laying out distribution systems for delivering water to the member cities equitably and economically, are at present the major concerns of our Engineering Department.

The District is also giving serious thought at this time to the working out of its financial program. The Metropolitan Water District Act is being very carefully analyzed by experts with the view to having it amended in the coming session of the State Legislature in such a way as to give the District every advantage in obtaining a low interest rate and a favorable price for its bonds. For instance, it is proposed to make the bonds of The Metropolitan Water District legal investment for savings banks. It is also planned to make them legal security for active and inactive deposits of the State and other political units.

Another problem on which the District is working at the present time, is the perfection of its scheme of organization. The

objective in this case is to set up only those departments and positions that are absolutely necessary to carry on the District's program in the most efficient way. It is realized that by careful planning at this time, costly changes and reorganization will be avoided in the future. This also involves a plan of civil service, to assist in selecting high types of employees.

PROGRAM OF THE DISTRICT

Within the next month, Chief Engineer Weymouth will submit to the Board of Directors an extensive report setting forth the results of the five years of engineering work on this project. This report and all supporting data will be referred to the Board of Review previously mentioned, who will convene in Los Angeles the middle of next month. They will carefully analyze all the data, make independent investigations, probably order supplementary work done, and will submit their final conclusions to the Board of Directors about the first of next year. It is expected that in their report the Board of Review will recommend a route as being the cheapest and best possible.

Following this report, the Board of Directors will make preparations for submitting the proposition to the people for their approval. It is believed that all the work will be ready, and that the time will be most auspicious during the coming spring. When the bonds are voted the District will expand its organization and begin the work, which should be under way about a year from now.

The present situation in Southern California is emphasizing

the necessity of The Metropolitan Water District advancing its program with all possible speed. Never has the water situation been so critical as at the present time. The District has become a clearinghouse for information relative to water conditions in Southern California. Reports from city after city are to the effect that their wells have dropped two or three times more this year than ever in the past. Ontario is now pumping its water from 350 feet below the surface. Fullerton is very much concerned because its water tables are rapdily approaching sea level, being only about 20 feet above at the present time. At Gardena, to the West, water is already at sea level at a point 15 or more miles from the coast. The greatest fear is not so much the lowering of the water tables as that when a certain low point is reached, salt water will start moving further inland from the ocean. Already in Long Beach salt water has penetr penetrated the area South of the Dominguez Hills, and is working inland at various points. At El Segundo salt water has reached inland a mile or more, and as you probably know, the Standard Oil Company is applying to the City of Los Angeles for the privilege of reclaiming 6,000,000 gallons a day of sewage water from the Hyperion outfall sewer to be used in its big plant.

With these conditions existing at the present time, and the prospect that water will not be available from the Colorado River for seven or eight years, the great question is, will we be able to get the water here in time to prevent Southern California from coming to a standstill and possibly losing millions of dollars in earnings and many millions more in values.

There is a brighter side to the picture, however. In fact

as far as prospects of economic advancement are concerned, Southern California is in a most enviable position. The United States Government will, in the next six or seven years, spend upward of $165,000,000 on the Colorado River Project, much of which will find its way into this region. In addition, there will be the circulation among our people, of the money expended on The Metropolitan Water District Aqueduct, yielding similar economic benefits.

However, the real economic returns to the people of Southern California from The Metropolitan Water District Aqueduct, will be the security provided for our present investments and financial structure. Without an additional supply of outside water, Southern California is in a very dangerous situation. Colorado River water will do more than stabilize present values, it will make possible industrial expansion and the growth of business and manufacturing along every line.

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DATA PRESENTED BY W. P. WHITSETT, CHAIRMAN,
METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA
BEFORE THE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE
CONSIDERING BOULDER CANYON DAM APPROPRIATION.

The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California will keep its water and power contracts with the Government, from the strongest motives we know, the preservation of life and property.

In 1904 the population of Los Angeles City was 160,000. The people living there then, as now, realizing there is no place else in the United States where nature has combined in such close proximity those conditions of ocean, valley, mountain, and desert, to make living so enjoyable or land investments more profitable, resolved to add the one determining element lacking to create growth and wealth, -- WATER.

They bonded themselves for $24,000,000, $150, per capita, to build the Owens River Acqueduct two hundred and fifty miles into Owens Valley -- sufficient in size to bring to that City four hundred second feet of water, enough for the domestic needs of two millions of people.

Had they not had the courage and foresight at that time to establish this forward looking water program, Los Angeles would be a city today of scarcely one-fourth its present size, and thousands of our wealthiest and most experienced citizens would be living or spending their winters along the Mediterranean shore line in Italy, Spain, and Southern France, where similar desert, mountain, and ocean conditions prevail, draining from the trade channels of these United States hundreds of millions of dollars annually. Population and wealth can not safely be increased in desert places without an ample, dependable supply of water.

The same results usually obtain under the same conditions.

The following statistics have been made possible by water:

Population of Los Angeles in 1900 - 102,000; 1910, a little over 300,000; 1920, 576,673; 1930, estimated to be around 1,000,000.

Bank clearings in 1910, under $1,000,000,000; 1920, over $4,000,000,000; 1930, ~~xxxx~~ $11,000,000,000.

Postal receipts in 1910, less than $2,000,000; 1920, over $4,000,000; 1930, over $10,000,000.

Assessed valuation Los Angeles County, the fastest growing part of which the Metropolitan Water District is largely comprised: ~~xx~~ 1910, $540,000,000; 1920, $1,100,000,000; 1930, $3,500,000,000.

Federal revenue (Postal - customs - internal) from Sixth California District, of which the Metropolitan Water District comprises the wealthiest part: 1910, $1,476,042; 1920 $55,318,936; 1930, $86,276,662.

Additional water will more than double these revenues; it is a sound investment for the Government to make this possible at once, in two years returning more than the cost of the whole Boulder Canyon project.

These figures show that the population, wealth, and assessed valuation of that part of Southern California comprising the Metropolitan Water District has more than doubled every ten years for the past thirty-year period.

The bonding capacity of the Metropolitan Water District is now $346,650, 167 and is estimated by the above figures to be around $500,000,000 by 1940, yet less than the present bonding capacity of the Metropolitan Water District is more than sufficient to build the Colorado River Acqueduct, estimated to cost around $225,000,000 if no additional cities join the District. Only a majority vote is required to vote the bonds.

The Colorado River Acqueduct is being designed to carry 1500 second feet of water, enough for the domestic needs of 7,500,000 people, and will cost less per capita then the Owens River Acqueduct cost when it was built.

Los Angeles on May 20, 1930, voted $38,800,000 for

additional water, nine to one in favor of same, to procure and distribute sufficient water to fill the present aqueduct and take care of the growing needs of its population until Colorado River water can be brought in. The City of Los Angeles now receives a large part of its present water supply from the Owens River Valley.

Those caring for the water needs of Los Angeles, realize that when the Owens River Aqueduct was used to its full capacity it would only bring to that City enough additional water to take care of its present trend of growth until about 1940.

The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California will vote its bonds and construct its aqueduct as indicated by the following votes:

On May 6, 1924, the citizens of Los Angeles voted four and three-tenths to one authorizing its officials to contract with the United States Government for Boulder Canyon power for pumping water from the Colorado River across the intervening mountains to Los Angeles.

On June 2, 1925, by a vote of five and four-tenths to one the citizens of Los Angeles authorized the expenditure of two millions of dollars to start the investigation and surveys for the most feasible route to build an aqueduct from the Colorado River to Los Angeles.

On June 2, 1925, the citizens of Los Angeles voted six and nine-tenths to one enacting a law creating the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California to enable sixty-some towns and cities on the Coastal Plains of Southern California to join together in bringing in this additional water supply from the Colorado River owing to the very urgent needs of these cities. Eleven of these Coastal Plains cities have already voted by a

large majority to join the Metropolitan Water District. Many more are only waiting for the Boulder Canyon Dam to start, when they will join.

The Boulder Canyon Dam project and the Metropolitan Aqueduct will create much needed employment.

Since voting the $2,000,000 five years ago, the work to find the most economic route over which to construct the Colorado River aqueduct has been pushed diligently forward. The Metropolitan District when organized took over this work and will be in a position to call its bond election as soon as the Boulder Dam is started and will start its $225,000,000 Aqueduct at once.

These two great projects will start so many other activities necessary to furnish materials, machinery, and care for additional growth, that the beneficial effects will be felt throughout the Nation and all the employable labor in the Pacific Southwest and adjacent states will be able to find profitable work as a result of these activities.

Respectfully submitted,

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Chairman, Metropolitan Water District
of Southern California.

Washington, D. C.
May 23rd, 1930.

tens of thousands more, would be anxious to come if they only knew how productive a fertile acre of Valley land with ample water is, in Southern California, and that it could be purchased at a fair and reasonable price and a good well-constructed home built on it, worth the money according to present standards of value.

These families I speak of have cash and incomes to justify such an investment and are hungry to get out on a piece of land where they can live under the warm skies of California in the open, producing their living and conserving their incomes.

We have learned our lesson. We are rounding the corner. There are better times just ahead. Let us hasten their coming by getting together and planning for the future.

Our motto this year should be -- STRICT ECONOMY, MODERATE PRICES, MORE SERVICE, MORE CASH, MORE BUSINESS, LESS PAPER PROFIT, AND A GREATER NET CASH BALANCE AT THE CLOSE OF 1931.

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Now we have stopped that strong forward march of constructive progress by our own foolishness and it is always far more difficult to re-start a constructive forward movement than it is to keep it going when once started.

Cash buyers do not purchase on a declining market and values do not travel in opposite directions at the same time. They must be stopped from going down before they start up. They can be stabilized here now, at present prices. But, remember, values can only be advanced, after they have first been stabilized, on the sound economic basis of supply and demand. We have the opportunity here for stabilizing values for there is no surplus of well-built houses on reasonably-priced acreage in the Valley, and no surplus of reproduction priced houses on the front of well-located lots in this district.

You men here tonight still hold the destiny of this community in your hands. I have always said that this is the best "hard times" community in America for, with our ample water supply, there is work and a living on every acre of this fertile land for a family.

So we start here first -- we should start now. You men can bring about the proper economic co-operation between the over-special-assessed and -taxed rancher who would be helped by a reasonable stabilized price before he is compelled to sell. The materialmen will undoubtedly be glad to co-operate on building materials for cash. Our capable building mechanics who should be at work can be counted on to do their part. The financial institutions have the money to loan to conservative home-builders. Tens of thousands of families now in Southern California, and

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Van Nuys Real Estate Board annual meeting Jan 15 1931

Present Development Possibilities
of San Fernando Valley

By W P Whitsett

Shortly after the close of the World War I completed my development work in the planning and building of Van Nuys and the subdividing of several large tracts of land into 5-acre units on which various intensive agricultural industries were established. Along about 1923, prices of land here in the valley were being artificially raised by uneconomic justification. I vigorously opposed different schemes to create false values, and was bitterly attacked by some of the promoters of these various schemes. On the 15th anniversary of the founding of Van Nuys -- February 22, 1926, upon request from some of the conservative leaders of the community, I submitted a partial plan for the economic development of San Fernando Valley.

This plan is too long to read here but it has been printed by the Provident Building-Loan Association on the reverse side of a San Fernando Valley map and any interested person can obtain same there. I would, however, like to read the last two statements contained in that plan of development.

VALLEY CAN SUPPORT 100,000 FAMILIES

With the natural economic advantages found here, it requires no great imagination to picture 100,000 families happily and permanently employed—living in contentment in this wonderful Valley, less than ten years from today.

Think of it! Nearly 500,000 people—half the present populaiton of the city of Los Angeles.

Think what it will mean in conservation of water to the great metropolis just over the hills!

Think of the wonderful opportunities for life in the open, in producing $50,000,000 of garden products annually!

Think of the great construction activities in the building of 100,000 homes at an average cost of $3,500—$350,000,000—$35,000,000 a year for ten years!

This is the greatest opportunity that has ever come for the building of a great self-supporting garden city—a city that will aid in the march of progress from the impossible, deplorable conditions, from which people in congested Eastern cities are trying to flee.

Think of what an opportunity we have to contribute to better citizenship!

WARNING IS SOUNDED ON NEEDLESS ASSESSMENTS

Now, just one word of warning!

These nature-balanced, carefully adjusted productive, educational, manufacturing and living possibilities can be destroyed forever by the activities of exploiting lot subdividers—by the voting of needless special assessment taxes—and by raising of land prices to a point where it becomes impossible to produce crops profitably.

These are pitfalls in the way—stumbling blocks in the path of a great community's progress toward broader, better things. They are obstacles plainly seen and recognized. By foresight and concerted action upon our part they can, and must be avoided, if we are to realize the high hopes and the great ambitions that are the natural destiny of our community.

I want you to get the date, 1926.

WHT
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REMARKS OF W. P. WHITSETT

BEFORE THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
of the
LOS ANGELES CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

July 30, 1931

The District, as you all know, has fixed the date of its bond election for September 29. The decision was made after due consideration of our responsibility in the matter. Today, at your invitation, we are here to solicit your support in assisting to make this project a success just as you men put your shoulder to the wheel twenty-four years ago to build the Owens Valley aqueduct.

The situations then and now are almost identical. We are now in a depression with our banks piled with money. While the panic of 1907, in which over thirty California banks failed, had not yet hit Southern California with its full force when the bonds were voted, its coming was clearly foreseen in the increasing tightness of money. The opposition used the same arguments based on the quality of the water, the cost of the enterprise, the need for water, the use of local supplies, and so on. There was a strong agitation for more engineering boards of review. In an editorial of the Los Angeles Times of May 9, 1907, the following occurs: "If the work of the consulting board is to be reviewed by another engineer, as good reason exists for a review of his review, and so on until all available engineers shall have had their say -- and fees."

The District feels that having selected the best men anywhere available, we must place confidence in their professional ability and integrity. Our Chief Engineer, Mr. F. E. Weymouth, is known throughout the world for his work. Beginning with the Metropolitan Water District of Massachusetts thirty-five years ago, he has been identified with railroad and irrigation work in South America and Mexico, and with the diversified and enormous projects of the United States Reclamation Service, of which he was for six years Chief of Construction, and four years Chief Engineer. Over forty dams, some of which were the largest of their kind, stand today as records of efficient construction and models of design, have been built under his immediate responsibility. These dams were built at 5% less than their estimated cost. His comprehensive studies and reports on the Colorado River development have successfully withstood the most vicious technical and political attacks to which engineering enterprise has ever been subjected. Mr. Weymouth's experience was thoroughly checked before he was employed by the District.

Mr. Hinds, his chief assistant, is of the same high caliber. As an expert of hydraulic design his work is internationally known, having won him the Norman Medal for the greatest original contribution to engineering literature in 1926. The Soviet Government, which places a premium on ability, has made him repeated offers on extraordinary terms.

In the department of electrical and mechanical design,

Mr. Gaylord has no superior in the United States. He has, in association with some of the greatest power concerns and with the United States Government, done some of the greatest work in long distance electrical transmission and large pump design in this country.

The field surveys and location work have been under the direction of Mr. J. B. Bond. He has probably had larger experience on canal location than any other person in the United States today. His background of experience ranges from flood control work in China, to investigations for gigantic reclamation projects in Mexico.

Mr. Munn, our Chief of Construction, has for over forty years been building projects throughout the United States. Before coming with the District he built the new supply line for the East Bay Municipal Utility District at Oakland, at 10% less than the estimated cost, which is putting that area on the industrial map, and which is now, by a temporary arrangement, enabling San Francisco to carry on.

Any one who will take the time to investigate the District staff will find the ablest group of men for the purpose ever gathered together anywhere.

The members of the Engineering Board of Review were chosen from among the forty-four best qualified consultants in America. Mr. Merriman, the Chairman of that Board, is now, and has been for many years, the active engineering head of the New York Water System, which supplies the needs of seven million

people living on an island, from sources hundreds of miles away. Mr. Merriman and his associates have twice rendered comprehensive reports to our Directors, and have been supplied with complete information as the work progressed.

Mr. Sonderegger, who for over twenty-five years has studied and recorded water supply conditions in Southern California, has prepared accurate and convincing reports on the need and use of water which substantiate the independent reports of the District and state engineers on the same subject.

In addition, the District has employed Mr. Lynch, who, on the basis of years of research, has prepared a report on historical climatic conditions in Southern California which further emphasizes the necessity of building the aqueduct as soon as possible.

I have presented this brief statement of our engineering organiz ation to impress you with the fact that the District has been thorough, cautious, and exacting in the selection of its men. Having gotten the best men available anywhere, we feel justified in placing great reliance in them. No other engineers without the same background and contact with the problems could be expected to render an equally competent opinion. The District, and the men themselves, welcome your investigation of their records in the same thorough manner employed by the District. I will now let the engineers speak of the aqueduct project in their own way.

Gentlemen of the Chamber of Commerce, the Metropolitan

Water District employed these men because they had confidence in their ability, integrity and fitness for the positions to be filled, and time and more intimate acquaintance have served to strengthen and confirm this confidence, and now, at this crucial time in the affairs of the District, when action is demanded by the serious problems to be solved and by the great public interests to be protected, we ask that you also show confidence in these men and in the results of their long and difficult labors for the District.

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S T A T E M E N T
by
W. P. WHITSETT
Chairman of the Board of Directors
of
The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California

November 28th, 1931

There can be no permanent relief from the strain and suffering of recurring depressions until our people seek the soil. For the past hundred years we have been getting further and further from the source of our food. Industry is building greater and more crowded cities whose millions must keep the wage-wheels turning or starve. Their very existence depends on the loaded food trucks clattering into the city all night long from the farms beyond.

That food, needed every day by every worker, is grown by some one else and must be paid for out of never certain wages. Until our workers are able to draw from the soil at least the minimum food necessary to sustain their bodies in health, in work and out, there can be no security and there must be charity.

Thomas Jefferson saw this all over a hundred years ago. At the time our Constitution was being drafted he laid down the principle that this government of the people and by the people can only succeed and live as long as the great majority of the people draw their freedom and independence from the soil.

For some years I have given the problem my best thought. Both in America and Europe, I have studied the possibilities and workings of a plan whereby industry would draw its labor from a sturdy citizenry whose sustenance and health is taken directly from the soil. My observations abroad show that those nations whose workers are most universally joined to productive land are the happiest and freest from consequences of a world depression.

No place in the world is so ideally adapted for sustaining a rural-living industrial system as Southern California. Here an acre of good land with water will supply the food requirements of a family clear through the calendar. One man with a few hours of intelligent labor morning and night, can keep his acre trim and his larder full. During the day when there is work, he is contented at machine or counter. When dull times or old age come along, he falls back to his comfortable home without regret, his savings giving him whatever necessities of life the land will not provide.

Industries will come to Southern California in ever-increasing numbers as the world center shifts to the Pacific. They will, for natural and economic reasons, concentrate at certain points. The area around will be subdivided into productive garden acres, each with its modest and comfortable

home. From these acres to the factory will come daily the workers traveling by auto, in groups, or over the rapid transit systems. During the morning and evening hours, and on the week-end, the worker will be healthfully engaged among his vegetables, trees, his vines and coops. As the working day is shortened, and it inevitably must be, more time will be available for his intensive gardening.

This plan does not propose to make every man a farmer. Nor does it intend to create an independence in luxury. For the ambitious man, it represents food, health, a home, security, and independence, whether the factory whistle blows or not, both in youth and in age. By joining our thousands of idle or misused acres with our willing thousands of jobless now pounding the cold pavements, a new era of prosperity can be started in this nation yielding through the years men and women of the type and spirit for which America is known.

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11/28/31

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by
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Chairman of the Board of Directors
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The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California

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W. P. Whitsett Present Day Club Talk Riverside March 23, 1931.

Mr. Chairman - Ladies and Gentlemen:-

About two months ago, there came before the Board of Directors of the Metropolitan Water District a communication from the City Council of the City of Riverside. The communication was an application in which our Board was requested to give its consent to the holding of an election in Riverside for the purpose of submitting to the citizens of this city the proposition of becoming a part of the Metropolitan Water District.

This application - filed in proper form under the law - was referred to the Legal Department and the Engineering Department of the District for their consideration. In due time, the District's General Counsel and Chief Engineer filed their reports. In substance, our General Counsel reported, that, under the laws governing the operations of the District there was no legal obstacle to the admission of Riverside - if the electors of Riverside chose to authorize such a step. In the same way, our Chief Engineer reported that there appeared to be no engineering condition preventing the admission of Riverside to the District - providing the citizens of Riverside chose to have their city become a part of the District.

Acting upon the reports of its Legal and Engineering Departments, the Board of Directors approved the application from the City of Riverside - and adopted a resolution enabling your city officials to submit to the voters of Riverside the proposition of entering the District.

It is important to keep in mind the fact that no officer or employee of the Metropolitan Water District ever advanced or encouraged the proposition of having Riverside join the District. It is not the policy

or the function of the District to urge or encourage the entrance into the District of any city now outside the District.

So far as the District Board was and is concerned, the question of Riverside voting upon the proposition of emtering the District is entirely a legal and an engineering question. Whether you WANT to come in - and whether you OUGHT to come in are questions the citizens of Riverside ALONE must decide.

Up to the present time - it has been the policy of the District Board that any community situated in the Central Coastal Plain of Southern California is entitled to share in the benefits of Colorado River water through membership in the Metropolitan Water District - provided that community is so constituted from a legal and engineering standpoint as to be eligible for admission into the District.

Almost immediately after the City of Riverside had taken the official steps to submit to its citizens the proposition of entering the District - our Board and the other officers of the District were requested to come out here to your community and present to you people the facts concerning the operations and problems of our District. It was natural enough that such requests should be made of the District officers in view of the fact that these officers should be the best possible source of information relative to the affairs and problems of the District.

It was in response to such a request for a presentation of facts that certain officers of the District and members of our Board consented to come to your city on Wednesday of last week and meet a group of Riverside citizens. It was in response to such a request from your constituted municipal officials that Col. S. H. Finley, Secretary of our Board consented to come to a meeting held here two weeks ago. It is in response to such a request, coming to our Board from your duly elected municipal

officials, that I am in Riverside this evening.

Originally it had been urged by your municipal representatives that our Board of Directors visit your city as a body. I am sure that every member of the District Board - a District that now represents fourteen cities in Southern California - I say I am sure that every member on our Board would have been delighted to come to your beautiful city.

I am sorry to announce, however, that the other members of our Board of Directors are not with me here in Riverside this evening.

You know - or should know - what benefits you will secure by becoming a part of the District. If you do not desire to partake of these benefits - it most emphatically is not the purpose of the cities now in the District to urge you to come in. If - having gained a clear understanding of the benefits to be derived by joining the District - you decide to become a part of our official family - you are assured of a hearty and genuine welcome by the fourteen other vigorous, growing, prosperous Southern California cities now constituting the Metropolitan Water District.

The Metropolitan Water District was organized and is operating for the sole purpose of bringing to the communities of this Central Coastal Plain an urgently needed supply of water from the Colorado River. There are - as I have already stated - fourteen cities now in the District. These cities are Colton and San Bernardino in San Bernardino County; Anaheim, Santa Ana and Fullerton in Orange County; San Marino, Pasadena, Glendale, Burbank, Beverly Hills, Santa Monica, Torrance, Long Beach and Los Angeles in Los Angeles County.

These are the cities now in the Metropolitan Water District. These are cities each one of which is willing to look the facts squarely in the face and admit frankly and freely that they must secure water from the Colorado River in order to maintain their present development - and make possible future growth.

These are the cities that are preparing to invest perhaps, more than $200,000,000 in the construction of the greatest water supply system ever built by hand of man. A Water supply system that will be the marvel of the civilized world - and will bring to the cities who build it a continuous flood of good, pure water to forever insure and safeguard the five billion dollars of wealth now resting upon a receding water table.

These fourteen cities are not so foolish as to think that they are the only communities in Southern California facing a serious water problem. They know - as all well informed persons know - that all Southern California is sitting on top of the same rain barrel - a rain barrel that is rapidly being drained of its precious accumulation of reserve water built up through the long ages before the white man came to this region and launched his intensive development of this wonderland of sunshine.

These fourteen cities know that our State Water Engineers have drawn our attention to the startling fact that we are now actually pumping from our underground water reserves one hundred and seventy million gallons of water a day MORE than either man or nature is replacing. They know that this enormous overdraft constantly is increasing. They know that the only way we possibly can stop this overdraft is by the bringing in of a new supply of water from an outside source.

These fourteen cities are not trying to kid themselves and the outside world by saying that we have been passing through a dry cycle but that we soon will be in a wet cycle of years - and then we will get all the water we need from the clouds over this semi-desert country. These cities know that the records clearly reveal that we may very well expect far, far dryer years immediately ahead than we have had during the past thirty years. They know that the records reveal that during the past century there were four periods when far dryer conditions prevailed in this region than we have thus far experienced since the opening of This century.

These cities know that they are not going to solve their vitally important water problems by squabbling over underground water technicalities. They know that there is no community in Southern California that can claim a corner on an undisputed and an inexhaustible water supply. They know that every one of the 29 so-called water basins in this Central Coastal Plain are interdependant. They know that it would be idle and foolish to waste our energy and jeopardize our present wealth by fighting over an empty water-hole.

These cities, at present, all are situated in San Bernardino, Orange and Los Angeles counties, are preparing - as I have said - to invest more than $200,000,000 in the construction of the great Metropolitan Aqueduct from the Colorado River. They know it will be a good investment - an investment that will create wealth many, many fold greater than its cost. They know that, while this original cost will never grow greater - but actually will decrease gradually - the wealth it will sustain and create constantly will be on the increase.

It happens that the route for the aqueduct now favored by the fourteen cities in the Metropolitan Water District lies almost entirely in Riverside County. If this route is used, ~~at least~~ a large part of $200,000,000 will be spent during the next eight or nine years right here in Riverside County - right here around the city of Riverside. It will be the greatest outpouring of money ever visited upon any similar community in the history of the United States of America. Two hundred millions of dollars to be spent in the city of Riverside and the county of Riverside - if the route now favored by the Metropolitan Water District is used. Other routes considered lie entirely outside of Riverside County.

That, in brief, is the basic water proposition that is today being worked out by the Metropolitan Water District.

What does Riverside want to do about it? The answer to that question, ladies and gentlemen of Riverside - is entirely and absolutely up to you. You will make your decision at the polls ~~next~~ 2 of next week Tuesday! The results of your decision will be far-reaching and will affect the value of every home and every business enterprise - the results of your decision next Tuesday will affect the pocket-book and the stomach of every wage earner and his family in this community for many, many years to come.

Certain it is, that the cities now in the Metropolitan Water District - and those that will come in within the near future - are going to build their aqueduct and invest their $200,000,000 in a way that will benefit the cities that are paying the bill. They are not particularly interested in playing Santa Claus to the rest of Southern California, that is standing on the sidelines. In the same way, Riverside - I am quite sure - desires to do that which will best protect its interests and secure for its lower business men and home-owners a fair share of the benefits that may come this way.

It is my earnest wish that your decision at the polls next week will be one that will bring you all security and success.

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Office Copy

WHT
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REMARKS

W. P. WHITSETT

Radio Station KELW - June 3, 1932

As Mr. _____ has stated, the return to the soil movement has always held for me a vital interest. We cannot get away from the fact that practically everything we eat comes from the soil.

Some years ago, after having started the town of Van Nuys as a community supported by intensive agricultural production, I felt a strong desire to see for myself the manner in which the nations of Europe with more years of civilization behind them, and with more congested populations, were solving their problems of living and food supply. I went to Germany, France, Belgium, and other countries, and saw their small, neat farms carefully cared for and wonderfully productive. In France, for instance, I saw numerous places where the people living in communities went daily back and forth to the farms they cultivated. They seemed very happy.

Of much greater interest than these, were the gardens immediately surrounding some of the large industrial centers of Europe. Here a man working in industry would maintain a small plot of ground, sometimes less than an acre in extent, on which he would devote his evenings and weekends, traveling back and forth on his bicycle, and producing sufficient vegetables and other products to meet most of the food requirements of his family. The significant thing that I want to point out about this arrangement is the fact

that the man was regularly employed in industry but at the same time was supplying a great deal of the food requirements of his family directly from the soil. That is a lesson which we must relearn. This Nation started as an agricultural Nation. Then came industry resulting in a concentration of the people in cities, which reached its peak following the Great War.

In leaving behind them their land, our people lost to a great degree their security. Instead of living off the production of the soil which they produced with their own labor, they now spend their entire time at machines or desks producing commodities, a large part of which must eventually be exchanged for food. While the job lasts, food can be obtained in this way without difficulty. When the job fails and the pay stops, the individual is faced with the problem of finding something which can be turned over to the food producer in exchange for his product.

The machine age is gradually resulting in not only shorter hours of work a day, but fewer days work a week to produce the consumptive requirements of the Nation. Shorter hours of labor mean decreased income and emphasize the necessity of supplementing the individual's producing capacity. Unless this problem is met, the strain and suffering of recurring depressions will become greater and greater. The only permanent solution is for our people to turn again to the soil from which they have been getting further and further away. The food required every day by every worker is now largely grown by someone else, and must be transported at increased cost and paid for out of never certain wages. Until our workers are

able to draw from the soil at least the minimum food necessary to sustain their bodies in health in work and out of work, there can be no security and there must be charity.

In the future, industry and productive garden soil can and will be more closely associated. To the individual ~~and~~ the vital economic question is not how much wages he receives, but how well can he eat, how comfortably can he live, and to what extent can he rely upon himself for these basic necessities of life.

For the solution of this problem no other place in the world is so ideally adapted as Southern California to sustaining a rural living industrial system. Here an acre of good land with water, will supply many of the food requirements of a family clear through the calender. One man with a few hours of intelligent labor morning and night can keep his acre trim and his larder full. During the day when there is work, he is contented at machine or counter. When dull times or old age come along, he falls back to his comfortable home without regret, his savings giving him whatever necessities of life the land will not provide.

As a direct consequence of reduced income and increased unemployment, the American Nation is now in the midst of a very definite migration from the city to the soil. The life which these new-comers to the land are finding is not that with the hardships of the lonely farms of our youth or of which our parents and grandparents tell. They are going to pleasant homes surrounded by a garden of an acre or more in extent in the territories immediately adjacent to the large industrial centers. In these regions all the conveniences

enjoyed by the city dwellers are available. He has immediate contact with the city life by means of his car over the paved highway systems. Electricity lights his home, gas cooks his food and warms his house, and he has water under pressure for all the requirements of both his house and his garden. His own garden supplies him with fruits, vegetables, berries, and other produce of better quality and fresher than he is able to buy. Such requirements as demand actual cash are met by working in the adjacent industries when employment is available.

For such a development the San Fernando Valley is most ideally suited on account of its location, climate, and the deep, fertile, silty soil. It has ample, improved streets, abundant water under pressure, and all the other utilities such as gas, electricity, and telephone. It is close to increasing industry. Highly improved highways lead to all parts of Southern California. The most important fact is that a garden acre with all of these advantages can now be obtained for less than the price for which a single lot formerly sold.

~~These city improvements and low agriculture commodity prices are forcing many San Fernando Valley ranchers to subdivide their land.~~ Think what it means to you to be able to purchase a garden acre for $1,000 -- with all these improvements installed and paid for. Think of being able to build a modern 6 room house for $2500 -- a garden acre home complete in the City of Los Angeles for $3,500. We invite your attention to the Garden Acre Home possibilities of the Van Nuys District.

In summary remember this: a Garden Acre Home in the San Fernando Valley with its cheap, abundant water, is a job in reserve -- a pension in old age. That Garden Acre Home can be had complete under present conditions in the highly developed Van Nuys District for $3,500.

The Van Nuys District is in the City of Los Angeles:

20 minutes by auto from Hollywood;

20 minutes to the University of California;

30 minutes to the ocean;

30 minutes to the fastest growing industrial center in the western part of the United States.

WHT
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REMARKS BY CHAIRMAN W. P. WHITSETT
TO THE MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF CONSULTING ENGINEERS
AND THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE
METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA
ON APRIL 4, 1932.

In times like these we are apt to forget our history and have our vision of the future obscured by our present troubles. Yet it is very heartening to take the census of the United States Government concerning the Metropolitan Area of Los Angeles, which reveals its present population as 2,318,000. Some of the men here can remember when Los Angeles was a little sleepy Mexican pueblo village, having in the neighborhood of 10,000 people--only about 50 years ago.

At that time there were half a dozen young giant cities starting here in the West, competing in population, growth and industry, forging ahead, and challenging one another as to growth and development. Enumerating them today you have, in addition to Los Angeles, San Francisco, Oakland, Portland, Seattle, Salt Lake City, and Denver. The metropolitan districts of all of them combined is less than the population of the metropolitan district of Los Angeles. Now those are very significant facts.

It is also a very significant fact that from 1900-1910 one person in every eight that located in the eleven Western states located in Southern California; from 1910-1920 every fifth person; in 1920-1930 almost every other person that located in this Western country located in Southern California. Now this metropolitan

district of Los Angeles has a greater population than the states of Oregon, Montana, Wyoming, Nevada, and Arizona. The same attractions that accelerated this trend of settlement are just as powerful today as they ever were, and there is a great deal more known about them.

Aqueducts are not built for the present. The aqueducts built by the Romans 2000 years ago are still being used by the city of Rome. Aqueducts are built for the influx of great migrations, the same as they are built for the troughs of depressions. And most of all, they are built for the dry cycles, the same as they are built for the bountiful rainfall years. And yet we haven't had rain for over six weeks and if it continues another week the rainfall-crops, the grain and hay of this section, will be cut possibly to one-third, and the pastures will be dried up within six to eight weeks earlier than we have normally been led to expect they would be.

We find through trips and contacts in the East that the people who have had their assets frozen up are figuring on making another start, and find that they are not going to start there. They are going to start in Southern California. We find that people who have liquid assets, who have been waiting for this thing to reach bottom, are going to reinvest here. Such a party came to California on the boat I was on. I understand that during the War he employed from 30,000 to 40,000 people. He has his assets in Government bonds. He is out here looking over our investments--

and our investments are such as to attract people when they consider the possibilities of our growth.

I want to say to you men, the Board of Consulting Engineers, that every major step of this Metropolitan Water District has been unanimously agreed upon. When we selected F. E. Weymouth as Chief Engineer he was unanimously agreed upon. When we made him General Manager it was unanimously agreed upon. When we selected the first Board of Consulting Engineers, they were reported by the Engineering Committee and unanimously agreed upon. When we selected the present Board that you men comprise, it was by unanimous agreement after the most searching consideration of the names of men who were qualified for this job. Now we are giving our time--there is not a Director here who draws a dollar--our Treasurer, Mr. Toll--Mr. Dave Pontius--do not draw a dollar.

I feel it is rather a presumption to say these things to you men, yet I know that this message that is intended to be left springs from the minds and hearts of these men, and some-one would think me derelict in my duty if I did not point out some of these things that have actuated us in carrying out this enterprise.

I am going to call on Mr. Merriman for a few remarks.

(Later)

I wish to say that all the facilities of the Metropolitan Water District, the Engineering Department, and everything connected with us here is at your disposal, and if there is anything you need that is not available, if you will let your wants be known we will see that they are placed at your disposal.

WHT
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REMARKS BY W. P. WHITSETT ADDRESSED TO THE
LOS ANGELES UNEMPLOYED VOTERS' ASSOCIATION

November 2, 1932

No one realizes the true situation in Southern California more than the Board of Directors of The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California. Lack of the ordinary necessities of life has brought many proud and capable men to us asking for work regardless of the kind. We have received reports showing the number of unemployed, and have had the cooperation of public spirited citizens in doing everything possible to get the aqueduct work started.

In their efforts to get the work started, the Directors have never spared themselves. They are giving their time to this work, in some cases at a large personal sacrifice.

I personally am firmly convinced that once the Colorado River aqueduct work is started, the back of the depression will be broken, so far as Southern California is concerned. Within nine months after the work is in a position to go forward, our General Manager and Chief Engineer informs me, there will be forty-five hundred men on the job. This number is expected to increase to nine thousand by the end of twenty months of operations. With these thousands of men assured of steady incomes, money will naturally start to circulate and we will find thousands of other workers, in lines independent of the aqueduct, back to their jobs. These workers will in turn put

more money into circulation, and so the thing will go on speeding up the recovery which, in many respects, is already well under way. The actual benefit to be derived from the starting of this work should be much greater than that resulting from the men directly employed.

The Metropolitan Water District is ready to start now, as far as the engineering work is concerned. All of the plans on the work to be started first, are finished. Arrangements have been made for the power necessary to operate the construction machinery. Bids have been called for on power lines and substations. The specifications are now in the hands of the contractors for the construction of the San Jacinto Tunnel--the biggest single job on the project.

I want to outline to you briefly the situation that is confronting the District. Ever since the bonds have been voted, the work has been snagged and spragged by some who apparently have little regard for the necessity of getting more water to Southern California as soon as possible. They have, in effect, unnecessarily delayed the time when thousands of needy men and women could have been given jobs. On October second, the last litigation in the State courts was ended. This litigation can be said to have held up the starting of the work since last January. While this litigation was going on, as you all know, a slump occurred in the bond market which might have made it difficult for the District to finance, in the usual way were it in a position to do so. We got over that difficulty by taking advantage of the Relief Legislation sponsored by the

Administration in Washington, to qualify the District for a loan. As you all know, we succeeded in doing this to the extent of obtaining from the Government a loan to the amount of Forty Million Dollars. Then again we were faced with oppotion to the best interests of Southern California. If the way could be cleared of legal obstacles, the attorneys inform me that the funds could be transferred to the District within 15 or 20 days. The case in Washington comes up for hearing tomorrow. Whether we can proceed immediately may be known within a comparatively short time. If the needless obstacles that have been holding us back can be gotten out of the way promptly, the work should be in full swing before the first of the year. If not, your guess as to when we start, is as good as mine.

I want to mention briefly the employment system of the District. Most of you no doubt saw in the newspapers a few days ago, that the District had started receiving applications for clerical and technical positions. Many of you, I presume, have filed applications in the classifications now open. When starting of the work is assured, registration will begin for all the kinds of workers needed on a job of this kind. In selecting the worker, aliens will be excluded. The employees will be confined, in so far as practicable, to qualified residents of the member cities in the District. In accordance with the Government's ruling, preference will be given to Veterans with dependents.

Every employee of the District will be selected on the basis of his merit, that is,to say, his capacity to do the job for which he is hired. A fair and carefully planned system has been set up which it is believed will give every man the protection which is ability deserves.

Much of the work will be carried on in the desert. For a part of each year, during the winter months, working conditions will be ideal. During the summer, there will occur periods when the workers will be subjected to conditions of a desert climate. In view of these factors, and aside from a number of considerations dictated by human interest, the Directors are determined that the workers shall be afforded every protection and care which can reasonably be expected on a project of this magnitude spread over such a wide territory. Conditions of living and housing must be right. The food must be good, adequate, and of the proper kind under the varying conditions. We want to carry out this job as efficiently as possible in a way that is fair to every person who may be in any way concerned. The Directors of the District desire that you should understand the problems that we are up against. We want you to realize and know that we are doing everything within our power to get the work started. Your cooperation and helpful understanding will make our task easier and hasten the result which we all so much desire.

W.HT
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Presented before the City Council of the
City of Los Angeles, November 15, 1927,
by W. P. Whitsett.

Mr. President, and
Honorable Council of the City of Los Angeles:

I am here in the capacity of a rancher from the San Fernando Valley. I wish to protest against paving Oxnard Street between Woodman Avenue and Fulton Avenue at this time. I am the owner of the land on both sides of this half mile of street, with the exception of a few hundred feet.

There are no houses on either side. The land is being farmed. If you men will take the trouble to investigate the situation you will see that other paved streets will reach all the principal points of travel more safely and at no greater distance; that the through traffic east and west will follow Victory Boulevard one-half mile nort, on account of the better crossing being maintained over the Tujunga Wash.

This particular ranch has already stood its share of the pavement on Woodman Avenue on the west, and of Fulton Avenue on the east. I think I signed the petition on both these avenues, as there were many settlers to be benefitted.

Almost one-third of the San Fernando Valley has previously been planted annually to beans. This assessment for paving Oxnard on this bean ranch will amount to about $15,000, or near $200 per acre, which is more than good bean land can be purchased for in the northern part of California. Many of our large bean growers are leaving the valley and are locating in the Northern part of the state near Tracy. Their lands are being sold to subdividers, who have been cutting these valuable lands into lots. Thousands of these lots have grown up to weeds, over 80% of them remaining unimproved.

The people of the City of Los Angeles have need for the garden produce that can be grown on these lands, and many thousands of citizens living in Los Angeles have need for the employment furnished by the small garden home acre tracts which these large bean ranches should first be cut into. These premature city street improvements are getting prices so high that this natural development is being defeated.

We have needed and have welcomed many of the paved highways, and

there are others that are still needed, but when you consider that

325 miles have been paved,

43 miles are now under construction,

50 miles passed ordinance of intention,

126 miles more ordered, making a total of 544 miles, at an average cost of $35,000 per mile for 20 foot paving, and $50,000 per mile for 30 foot paving, or an average total of say $40,000 per mile, or $21,760,000; you men, as sober minded directors of a great city, should pause at this particular time at least long enough to inquire how it is going to be paid, and who is going to pay it.

Will the banker renew his first mortgage when he finds it is only third or fourth, with two or three first mortgages of street bond issued ahead of his, in some instances amounting to more than his loan?

Will the tax assessor again raise the value of these ranches and tax these taxes as has been done?

Can the rancher meet all these overlapping taxes and refinance himself?

These are economic questions of great importance to this city, and their correct solution will determine whether we are to have 75 or 100,000 families on small acreage home tracts, producing $50,000,000 of needed garden home products annually, filling the great gravel deposits underlying the San Fernando with irrigation seepage to be pumped for domestic use in times of great need; or

Shall we continue the unnecessary paving of streets until we defeat these constructive purposes, by getting the taxes and prices of our land too high?

It is for these reasons that I respectfully request that this part of Oxnard, between Fulton and Woodman, be omitted from this street improvement, as unnecessary at this time, and a tax burden that the production from this bean ranch will not pay.

WHT
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SUMMARY OF REMARKS BY W. P. WHITSETT
TO THE MEMBERS OF THE LOS ANGELES REALTY BOARD
DECEMBER 13, 1932

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I want to give you some of my personal experiences because of the way they fit into the problem of the Metropolitan Water District and the need for more water in Southern California.

My grandfather brought the first coke into Pittsburgh, floating it down the Alleghany River on rafts. The family took over the business when my grandfather passed on. However, it was about that time that industry began to move from Pittsburgh to Chicago because the farmers had sold their lands to the factories at profitable prices with the result that Pittsburgh had to import her food requirements.

Chicago, on the other hand, was in the center of those fertile food producing states around the Great Lakes and in the Mississippi Valley. It has been said that industry moves on its stomach, and some times a stronger word is used. I saw that take place and the profits go out of the coal industry. The family then moved down into Kentucky and pioneered in the coal business.

Coal is a highly competitive industry. The mine must be established within a certain radius of the industrial District. As soon as a plant gets outside of the range of competitive tariffs it is hopelessly licked before it starts. This we found out in Kentucky where we were always just one jump ahead of the sheriff. Finally we were sold out, and I went to Chicago.

There I determined to make an intensive study of the

relationship between industry and the migration of population. On the basis of my studies, I went down into Indiana in the vicinity of Sullivan and located a coal mine. My mine was within fifteen miles of the center of the population of the United States at that time.

Industry in those days, was dependent upon coal supplies. Wherever plants were set up they were always concerned as to whether the coal producers would gang up on them and fix the price. For that reason, when the big industrial development was established at Gary, the men behind the development insisted on tying up the coal lands to the end of the amortization period of the investment. At that time I had information which would have made me a million dollars. Mr. told me that they were going to move the industry to Gary and advised me to get in on it. I went down there, looked at those sand dunes along the lake shore, and couldn't see anything in it. I sold my coal mines to those men for $30,000, and that was the money on which I cam to Southern California.

When I came here I was in poor health. Before leaving the East, I made a canvass of my friends to find out what they were thinking about Southern California. Everywhere I went people told me that they wanted to come to California but they were not able to do so at the time. I came out here with the conviction that the place was going to grow. I was convinced that this area would become a large industrial center, located as it is on the rim of the Pacific Ocean with all the growing foreigh markets.

I knew that industry meant population, and population meant values. I expected the money I had to earn enough to keep me and began looking around for an investment. Down on Florence Avenue

where the Florence School house now stands, I discovered a walnut grove which was just about the prettiest grove I had ever seen. I bought it and the man who sold it to me gave me a sworn statement that it had paid 6% a year for the last six years. I paid $50,000, putting up $10,000 in cash, and giving my personal note for $40,000. The man I bought it from suggested that we handle it through a trust company. I asked what trust company, and he said the Title Insurance and Trust Company, and I said alright. That trust is a trust of record over there today, number 2 .

When I came to take over the property, I discovered that the man who owned it had been using sewage water on it, and that the neighborhood had grown up somewhat and he had been ordered to stop using it. I had a walnut grove without any water. I went to a neighbor who had a well, Mr. who told me he couldn't supply enough water for the grove for irrigation.

At that time there were several subdivisions being put on. It was just before the Script panic in 1905, and this fellow told me that if I would subdivide it he would sell me enough water for domestic purposes, and that is how I got into the subdivision business. If you will go over to the T.I.T. you will see where it paid me over $200,000 on an investment of $10,000. That was experience number one.

Then I went up to Acton. I wanted to get out on the desert. I built myself a house up on the right hand side, and probably some of you have seen it. When I tried to get some water, every well I put down was drier than the one before. I shipped a well-drilling outfit up there and made that country look like a

Swiss cheese. Those are my first experiences with water in Southern California.

When I came out here, I thought that any place I put down a hole I could get all the water I could ever want. In the coal mining business I never sunk a shaft or drove an adit without being deviled to death with water.

Then I went over to Phoenix. They were building the Roosevelt Dam. I felt on the basis of my experience that values were goint to increase as soon as the water became avialable. I told the agent to get me a piece of land out near the Heard place. He scouted around and found a piece, about 20 or 40 acres, I forget which, right across from the Heard place, and I bought it. I wish I could have gotten more. When the water came in I doubled my money.

Then I took up a claim in the Imperial Valley under the Desert Act, and am farming that down there today.

Then I came back to Southern California, and they were talking about bringing in the Owens Valley water. The Suburban Land Company had bought 47,000 acres in the San Fernando Valley. They offered me an opportunity to get in on it, but I didn't want any more investments in real estate in Southern California until I was sure there was going to be water for it. They paid $50 an acre for that land.

Later when the water was assured, they wanted some one to put on a subdivision at the townsite of Van Nuys. I bought that land at $550 an acre. Later on I bought still more. Then we put in the poultry industry and built it up to an annual revenue of over $2,000,000.

The thing I want to point out in citing these personal experiences, is that land in Southern California without water, is valueless. You couldn't give me the best piece of land in Southern California if I didn't know there was going to be sufficient water to take care of it. Right now you have falling water tables, salt water encroachments down at Santa Monica, Long Beach, and the Santa Ana River.

Industry is going to watch its investments closer than ever. You can't fool them any longer. They know conditions in Southern California. They are not going to invest in propositions which will become as worthless as the stocks and bonds they have been buying the last few years. Take the little plant of Proctor and Gamble down at Long Beach. Before they would locate there they made the City guarantee them a certain amount of water. Responsible people down there who know what it's all about, told me that they wouldn't dare make another agreement on the same basis.

I feel I know this subject of industry and the migration of people. I have made an intensive study of it for many years. I have made trips back East from time to time and contacted people in different walks of life. I always found them interested in moving to Southern California. I believe that if we build this aqueduct we will see one of the greatest waves of migration to Southern California that has ever been experienced. Industry has got to get closer to its market.

I felt when I first came here that it was absolutely foolish to ship our cotton, leather, and other products to the East to be manufactured and buy them back after paying the freight

both ways. Industry is going to come to Southern California if it has an assured water supply. There is going to be intensive development of the garden acre with the shorter hour day and the shorter day week. Thirfty people are going to want a place where they can put in their extra time and produce some of the things which they consume. No place is adapted like Southern California to that kind of development, where the growing season is 365 day in the year. After the War, I went to Europe and studied the little farms in and around Dresden and in Belgium, and saw how they do it.

To talk about sufficient water being available in Southern California, is foolish. Any place with only 15 inches of rain a year, and most of that coming in a couple of months, has not sufficient water to sustain values. Investments in Southern California are on water and not land. There isn't any other city in the world the size of Los Angeles, but what is located on a living stream or the shore of a fresh water lake. Any other city of comparable size in the United States has at least twice as much rainfall, and most of it coming in the summer time when we don't get any at all. Any six months of what we go through, would dry up the Missippi River.

Those are the facts, men. You can check them up. We have been drawing on our underground reserves. Water can't be stored in open reservoirs with an evaporation of six feet a year off the top of it. In fiver years, and we have dry spells longer than that, you would lose thirty feet.

I know these things are true from my own experience. Any of you men can check them up. I don't expect to make a dime

out of the Colorado River Aqueduct that any of you won't make in your regular businesses. They wished the job of Director on me. God knows I didn't want it. They don't pay me a dime. Sometimes I wonder why I put up with it. If you would sit up in the office in my chair and listen to the politicians that come into it all day long trying to get their hands in the till and when they can't bringing all sorts of charges against us like this fellow broadcasting over the radio, you'd feel that it isn't fair. We shouldn't be made to upt up with it. If you men don't get behind us and get these politicians off our back, one of these days it's going to be just too much to handle and we'll turn the thing over to you.

Let me tell you men, if the politicians ever get their hands on this project, they will wreck the city. Take the Hetch Hetchy project as San Francisco. That was started at the same time the Owens Valley Aqueduct was started. The Los Angeles Aqueduct is finished and now outgrown, and they are still working on theirs and the taxpayers are paying interest on over a hundred million dollars of bonds. Our rate for water is 13¢ per hundred cubic feet, and theirs is 28¢, over twice as much, and now they have to buy water from Oakland to get through.

I tell you men, if we hadn't had that snow crop last year, you would have been pumping 80% of your water last summer with drastic curtailments, and you would have been compromised in the eyes of the world right at the time while the Olympics were here.

Of the water that was brought down from the Owens Valley, a hundred second feet was put on the San Fernando Valley, most of

which was picked up again down below. The flow of the Los Angeles River was doubled. There are about 150,000 acres in the Valley if you take in the foothills and the arms which have a conservative estimate of $2000 per acre including the towns - - and Glendale and Burbank grew on the water they filched from the City - - you would have a value of $300,000,000. This is more than enough to build the Colorado River Aqueduct which will bring in 1500 second feet.

In all of the world, Europe, France, etc., they have been looking for productive investments in which they can safely put their money and know they are going to get it back. Here we have a self-liquidating project that is going to give you something that is worth the money. Work was started on the aqueduct nine years ago. Old Bill Mulholland saw the need for water and no one ever accused him of being an idle dreamer. If we had known then what we do now, it could not have been started at a better time to give employment and take advantage of the low trough of current prices. It will mean a great saving if we start the aqueduct now and build it with the prices that will be maintained for the next few years.

In addition to our experts, the engineers, economists, and financial experts of New York ~~and~~ & the Reconstruction Finance Corporation went into the project most carefully. And on every phase of it, the need for water, the ability to pay for it, they satisfied themselves as to its merits. Their report was very reassuring to us.

I want to tell you men that it is up to you to get behind this project. It is your job, and you shouldn't ask us to give our time and take all this abuse. If you get behind us and keep the project on the high level that we have maintained so far, we will give you an economic and efficient job at a reduced cost in proportion to the reduction in your assessed valuation.

Applause.

Mr. McCarthy expressed appreciation and said it was just the kind of a talk that they wanted and needed.

MR. WHITSETT: Let me tell you men you have been most helpful -- Mr. Robertson and Mr. McCarthy. When the bonds were being voted on we had your resolution before us, which proved to be a great help.

SUCCESS BOND

WHT
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(COPY)

REMARKS BY W. P. WHITSETT ADDRESSED TO THE
SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA WOMENS' CIVIC LEAGUE
at
LA CASA GOLINDRINA
NOVEMBER 4, 1932

Madam Chairman, Members, and Guests of the Southern California Womens' Civic League:

I am not going to talk about politics. After trying for several weeks to find a musical program on my radio and listening to a number of speakers at public meeting, I have come to the conclusion that no one is talking or thinking about anything else. However, my subject is entirely wet, though it has a reputation for being exceedingly dry.

Among the Portugese there is a proverb handed down from ancient times, which reads, "What water gives, water takes away." This bit of wisdom seems to me to apply especially to Southern California. Water has given us beauty and fertility of this most pleasant of all lands, and if our water supply should fail, they will be unquestionably taken away. In desert areas such as ours, the relationship between water and life is exceedingly close. Even a slight falling off from the average rainfall brings with it loss and suffering.

We can arrive at an index of the importance of a water supply by investigating the number of cases and the amount of money that is spent in litigation over water rights. All of us know from personal experience, the endless fights and the ruinous attorneys' fees resulting in all parts of Southern California through disputes over what frequently proved to be dry wells or

undependable streams.

It seems to me very appropriate to talk water in this delightful and romantic spot, reminding us of the quiet days of the Dons. I remember reading in the papers at the time this work which Mrs. Sterling and her associates so nobly conceived and executed, was in progress, of the discovery of evidences or remains of the old mother ditch. As I recall, a marker was placed to indicate where it crossed this street before circling around the hills toward Main Street and continuing across the heart of our hight valued District in the vicinity of Pershing Square. There is no doubt in my mind but what the location of the City of Los Angeles was determined by the water which was made to flow in that ditch. The records reveal that before the coming of the Spaniards, an Indian Village with ancient traditions was located on the Los Angeles River not far from the Plaza.

The first Spaniards brought with them a knowledge of water supply and the principles and practices of irrigation which the northern Europeans did not possess. Theirs was a country of relatively meager water supplies, very similar to Southern California. We are told that the Spaniards acquired their knowledge of the principles of irrigation from a truly desert people, the North African Arabs, who conquered a large part of Spain in about the Ninth Century. Upon the knowledge transmitted down through the generations from this distant source, with the employment of methods and equipment brought about by an industrial age, it can be truly said that our communities here depend for their very existence.

We are, in every sense of the word, dependent on the weather. People coming to live in Southern California from areas of abundant rainfall, are frequently slow to appreciate this fact. They remember the heavy downpours which occur two or three times during a normal winter when streams overflow, and water rushes along the streets, but forget the dry periods in between, and the frequently rainless summers. In making comparisons, the fact is often overlooked that there is no city in the United States approaching Los Angeles in size, but what has not only much more rainfall, but has it fairly evenly distributed throughout the year. In other words, they do not have to devise means of conserving the rainfall of the wet period so as to have it available during the dry season.

The storing of water in reservoirs which, by the way, are exceedingly scarce in Southern California, brings other problems. Under our sunny skies, evaporation is high. A reservoir thirty feet deep would entirely disappear by evaporation in five years even though not a drop of water were used from it. The difficulty of maintaining water pure and clean during such periods, is another problem. The great salvation of Southern California has been the fact that the soil beneath our City is porous. In the gravels which filled the ancient valley in the centuries before the coming of the white man, was stored the water upon which we have been living and growing for the last thirty years.

In addition to the fact that Southern California has much less rainfall than cities of equal size throughout the United States, it is not located on a living stream or a fresh water lake. If you

will run over in your mind the different large cities, you will realize this significant fact. The question of providing water for a great city is not merely one of obtaining a sufficient quantity to carry on from one winter to the next, there is a much broader and more important consideration. The years vary greatly as to the total amount of rainfall which is received. Some years are much wetter than others. Then again we have what are called "cycles" in which dry years succeed one another. The longest dry spell is the critical period for which the water supply should be planned if suffering and property loss is to be entirely avoided.

It must be borne in mind that the source of all water which is used by human beings is the rainfall. In the last analysis, there is none other. During the past thirty years, the significance upon civilization of climatic changes has begun to be recognized and studied. Some of the greatest authorities on this subject have shown a very definite relationship between changes in climate and the great upheavals and movements of people which have occurred down through the ages. It is generally believed that there has been no permanent change of climate since the Iron Age. Very careful studies reveal that the great movements of Barbarian people living on the great plains came during a dry cycle. Some have shown with considerable success that the downfall of the Roman Empire was a result of a long dry cycle which ruined the agricultural backbone which existed in the nation at its prime.

To those of us endeavoring to build a great community in a desert environment, these are all important facts. A study of our past history gives them double emphasis. It can be fairly said that the history of Southern California can be recited in terms of water

supply. The Dons brought with them their horses, cows, sheep, and built in an incredibly short space of time, a large and profitable industry based on grazing. The abundant feed, and the ideal climate, made their herds increase with amazing rapidity. Cows, mares, ewes, matured a year earlier than in the east, and bore more frequently. Also, there were few of the diseases which occurred in the older countires. Herds rapidly increased to the capacity of the pastures. During the winter and spring, there was almost invariably ample feed for the stock which wandered between the lowlands and the mountain slopes. A year of scant rainfall, however, would leave the pastures dried up by late summer or early fall. The carrying of the herds through the fall and early winter period, was the great problem of the Spaniards. The more energetic and progress gringo sometimes supplemented the natural pastures with cultivated fodder. Nevertheless, the climate wrote "finals" to the grazing industry. In the drought of 1858, seventy thousand cattle perished in Southern California, Five years later, in 1863, to all practical purposes, came the end. Between two and three hundred thousand cattle, or two-thirds of all those in Southern California, died in that drought. It has been reported that one could walk across the San Fernado Valley stepping entirely on bones. The cattle industry rapidly fell from first place to third or fourth.

The growing of grain leapt into prominence. By skillful farming, abundant crops could be obtained the majority of the year. The crop was so exceptional that a total failure every few years due to rainfall, could be accepted. The rest of the story is better known.

In the eighties, irrigation was introduced. Then came the citrus and other products. The mechanical pump was perfected, giving access to the accumulated stores of water in the ground. Every year the drain on our reserves has increased. The farsighted leaders of Los Angeles, of which William Mulholland was undoubtedly the first, saw clearly that unless an additional supply of water was brought to the Coastal Plain of Southern California from a source not dependent on local rains, our growth would be forever limited. The population that could have existed without the Owens Valley water, has been liberally estimated as not exceeding 300,000. The finishing of the Los Angeles Aqueduct was the beginning of a new era. With an assured water supply, which at that time was estimated as sufficient for 75 years, industry could with confidence come into this area.

As the fact that the growth exceeded so much the expectations that the amount of water brought in was used up became apparent, the necessity of obtaining more water became imperative. This was the situation which brought into existence the Metropolitan Water District aqueduct which is now in the first stages of starting work. The engineering plans are finished and the work will be started as soon as the legal requirements and obstacles can be overcome.

A clear picture of what the construction of the Colorado River Aqueduct will mean to Southern California must take into account two factors. First, its bearing upon our present situation, and secondly, upon the Southern California of tomorrow. To any one who has the time and inclination, it can be easily shown that the amount of water available locally plus that being imported from the Owens Valley, is less than the amount being consumed. In other words,

the deficiency is being met by drawing upon the ancient underground reserves which I mentioned earlier.

The general knowledge that our water supply was inadequate, has unmistakably retarded our growth. Industries are timid about spending vast sums which may be rendered worthless or impaired by a curtailment of the water supply necessary for operation. Water from the Colorado River will eliminate this condition.

As to the second factor, or what the water supply from the Colorado River will mean to generations yet to come, I believe most of you here are in a position to judge equally as well as myself. That people throughout the United States want to live in Southern California, goes without saying. That industry has its eyes turned in this direction is quite evident. The natural resources capable of supplying 85% of the materials entering into the manufactured products of the United States, are to be found within three miles of Los Angeles. Competitive industry will naturally seek the lower production costs to be obtained under the influence of a mild climate.

The power resources available from local facilities and the great Hoover Dam Project, assures sufficient energy at a reasonably competitive cost. As to the labor supply, Southern California is again in a favorable position. For many years I have made a very careful study of the attitude of people in the Eastern centers toward Southern California. Once or twice a year while in the East, I have selected representative men of all occupations and put the question to them, "Do you want to move to Southern California?" The results indicate clearly that in almost every case they not only want to come to Southhern California, but are willing to do so at a lower rate of pay. The depression has not changed this situation. In fact, it will, in my opinion, increase the trend to Southern California. Under the

stress of economic conditions, men who regarded themselves as permanently established in the East, found themselves uprooted. They are no longer tied to local affairs and social orders. With their remaining resources, they are looking about for new and better opportunities in making a new start. Southern California is going to be the goal of many of these people, and as soon as the present condition, which is certainly on the men, has sufficiently improved, we will see a growth greater than any experienced in the past.

The Pacific Coast will represent an ever-increasing market. In years to come, there will be an adjustment of international exchange, and Southern California will undoubtedly become a manufacturing center distributing goods to the teeming millions surrounding the Pacific. Our growth will, in my opinion, take on a somewhat different aspect in the future than it has in the past.

The depression has taught many people the insecurity of a purely industrial civilization. When a man produces nothing which can be eaten, his existence is always uncertain. The diverting of his physical energy and knowledge to producing automobile parts and cigar lighters, makes him absolutely dependent on his daily wage. When that ceases, unless he has accumulated reserves, the problem of food becomes a pressing one, and society is faced with the problem of feeding him. The answer to this situation is the combining of small scale agriculture with an industrial occupation. The trend is toward shorter working days, and fewer days per week. This will give people more time to themselves. In no better or more healthful way can such time be spent that in cultivating a small garden surrounding his home, and capable of furnishing him with much of the food which he and his family consume.

I know of no place in the world where such a combination of small scale agriculture and industry can be accomplished, as in Southern California. Here we have a ever growing industrial center requiring thousands of workers, immediately adjacent to exceedingly fertile soil. The only element at present lacking, is sufficient water to place the small home gardens on an intensive production basis. The supplying of this water will, in my opinion, be one of the greatest benefits to be derived from the building of the Colorado River Aqueduct.

Aside from the more permanent benefits that I have mentioned, is another factor which is these times of great unemployment we can not and must not overlook. That is the necessity of providing men with work and of getting money into circulation so that others will be given work. The aqueduct will put to work our engineers estimate, within four months after starting, 4500 men. At the end of the first year, this will be increased to 9000 and will reach a maximum of over 16,000 toward the later years of construction. You can be assured the Directors of the District have been devoting every ounce of energy they possess toward getting the work started. No one realizes more than they, the responsibility which rests upon them. However, the obstructive forces working through the complications of law are making the problem exceedingly difficult.

If all the difficulties now confronting the Board can be cleared away expeditiously, the work can be started within a month or six weeks.

Nearly every one believes that a democracy is the best type of government yet devised by man. However, we must concede that in certain respects other forms have something to be said in favor of them.

I am going to illustrate what I mean by an incident from history. When Napoleon returned from one of his Eastern campaigns, he decided or probably felt it expedient, to do something in a big way for the City of Paris. He called in the Minister of Home Affairs and asked him, "What can I do to give Paris a population of two million people within the next ten years?" Such an undertaking was a characteristically big job when we realize that Paris at the time had a population in the neighborhood of six hundred thousand. The Minister of Home Affairs answered the question promptly, and said, "Give Paris an adequate water supply." Napoleon then asked him if he had any specific proposal in mind which he could recommend. Thereupon the Minister of Home Affairs outlined a plan of constructing a canal to a stream some distance from the City. When he had finished talking, Napoleon said, "Your plan is good. We will start tomorrow. Send five hundred men out to work in the morning."

WHT 9.

STATEMENT by W. P. WHITSETT

April 4, 1932.

In times like these, we are in danger of losing our sense of values--the capacity to see and judge things and events in their proper relations. We see depression towering above our daily affairs as a giant, overawing and fearful by its nearness. Seen from a distance it diminishes to a normal figure in the pageant of progress. A sane perspective depends upon a detached viewpoint from which the past is revealed in fact and the future projected as a reality.

A Greek philosopher once said that nothing is certain but change. Certainly this is true of mankind in his movements. Since far beyond the beginning of written records the peoples of the world have been in constant migration. In primitive ages the lack of water for crops, the endless search for food, the pressure of enemies from without and overcrowding within, were the forces driving people to leave their homes and search for more favorable lands. While these migratory driving forces have not been eliminated from our complex modern civilization, they have been largely displaced by the objective drawing powers of the desire for wealth and physical comfort. Lands and cities possessing greater economic opportunities or blest with the capacity to yield a more comfortable and abundant enjoyment of life, exert a constant magnetism on a free people.

Migrations of peoples both in ancient and modern times, have been tremendously important factors in the progress of civilization. Greece of classic times rose from the merging of a great surge of barbarians pouring through the mountains from the north, with the well-advanced native civilization. In a later period, other wild hordes coming out of Asia struck the death blow to the tottering Roman empire, profoundly affecting all subsequent Western history.

A new age began when Columbus opened a new world. His discovery started a movement westward across the Atlantic that has continued to the present time. It reached a peak in 1907 when 1,285,000 immigrants landed on these shores in a single year. Then the War checked the flow. After the War restrictive legislation first suppressed and then closed the gates almost entirely to the foreigner.

However, this has not prevented the movements of people within our national sphere. The negro, entering into industry, has been filtering northward in ever-increasing numbers from his ancestral home. Each year our neighbors to the North and South are sending an appreciable contribution to our population. More significant than these movements of people, however, has been the growth of Southern California. Toward this area an ever-increasing stream of people has been directed from every city and hamlet of the nation. They are drawn by trade opportunities, our wealth of scarcely touched natural resources, and the comfort of living in an environment free from the paralyzing effects of harsh seasonal changes.

These magnets are now stronger than ever. While as a nation our people are struggling with the balance of the world in unscrambling and reassembling the complex economic machine suddenly gone wrong, we must not forget that the essential elements are unchanged. The brains, the skill, the vision, and the energy of our people, as great as ever, are only seeking opportunities to function. Our natural resources, the fertility of the fields, the forests on the mountain slopes, the minerals in the earth, are not lost. The problem, black as it seems from close at hand, is clearly one of time and economic readjustment. Any scheme of things predicated on existing circumstances, lacks a true perspective of America and American people.

The migration to Southern California has not stopped. It has hardly halted and is now gathering greater force. The undeniable statistics of what has happened in the past tell a graphic story. In the decade from 1900 to 1910 one person in every eight migrating to the eleven Western states, settled in Los Angeles County; from 1910 to 1920 one in every five; from 1920 to 1930 one in every 2.50. The Los Angeles metropolitan area which fifty years ago contained only 30,000 people now has 2,318,000, which is more people than live in the metropolitan areas of San Francisco, Oakland, Portland, Seattle, Salt Lake City, and Denver put together. In fact, more than the total population of the states of Oregon, Montana, Wyoming, Nevada, and Arizona. This phenomenal growth has not been accidental, but the result of sound, conservative judgment on the part of the people. Nor has the attraction spent its force. Rather the force has just begun to work.

In the ten years from 1920 to 1930 the State of California gained 2,250,000 persons of which 1,440,000 or 64%, came to the Los Angeles Metropolitan area. There were 5,146,000

people born in states east of the Mississippi River who in 1930 were living in states west of that river. Of all the 48 states, during the last census decade, California attracted more people from their state of birth than any other. Not only has she drawn heavily from her sister states, but she has retained her native sons and daughters. Only 8.3% of the people born in California were living in other states in 1930, this being the smallest percentage of any state. These facts reveal unmistakably the inherent and sustained powers of growth possessed by this area.

The economic future of Southern California is established and secure in its growth as the reports of industry and commerce reveal. Other more subtle influences are turning people's thoughts to Southern California. A few days ago an eminent friend on returning from an extensive trip throughout the Middle West and East which brought him in contact with many people whose remaining funds were frozen through bank failures, stated that among many of them exists a strong determination to make their new start in Southern California. This is a migrational force which did not operate previous to the depression.

The depression has taught many people another truth: that they are living too far removed from the soil for security. There is a growing realization that a job is a very uncertain link with food. The answer is the suburban garden home capable of supplementing the pay check with garden produce in prosperous times and of supplying a large part of the family food requirements during depressions or periods of unemployment. This sociological fact is particularly significant to us because no place in this nation is so ideally adapted for sustaining a rural-living industrial system as is Southern California - provided there is an adequate water supply.

In fact, water supply is the only uncertain element which will not be removed until we double our available supplies by bringing water from the Colorado River. To realize on our possibilities we must have ample water for our homes and gardens, for great industries, for commerce, and for the fertile acres which make Los Angeles County and this area the greatest comparative agriculture producing area in the nation.

The Metropolitan Aqueduct will soon be under construction. In voting the bonds for this mighty creative undertaking in the midst of the greatest depression ever experienced by this nation, the people of Southern California gave unmistakable evidence of their confidence in our future as made clear by past experience.

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REMARKS BY W. P. WHITSETT ADDRESSED TO THE
SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA WOMENS' CIVIC LEAGUE
at
LA CASA GOLINDRINA
NOVEMBER 3, 1932

Madam Chairman, Members, and Guests of the Southern California Womens' Civic League:

I am not going to talk about politics. After trying for several weeks to find a musical program on my radio and listening to a number of speakers at public meetings, I have come to the conclusion that no one is talking or thinking about anything else. However, my subject is entirely wet, though it has a reputation for being exceedingly dry.

Among the Portugese there is a proverb handed down from ancient times, which reads, "What water gives, water takes away." This bit of wisdom seems to me to apply especially to Southern California. Water has given us the beauty and fertility of this most pleasant of all lands, and if our water supply should fail, they unquestionably will be taken away. The relationship between water and life is exceedingly close, especially in desert countries. In desert places, even a slight falling off from the average rainfall brings with it great loss and suffering.

We can arrive at an index of the importance of a water supply of any region, by investigating the number of cases and the amount of money that is spent in litigation over water rights. Most of us in Southern California know from personal experience all about endless fights and the ruinous litigation, and long

drawn out controversies resulting through disputes over what frequently have proved to be dry wells or undependable streams.

It seems to me very appropriate to talk water in this delightful and romantic spot, reminding us of the quiet days of the Dons. I remember reading in the papers at the time this work which Mrs. Sterling and her associates so nobly conceived and executed, was in progress, of the discovery of evidences or remains of the old mother ditch. As I recall, a marker was placed to indicate where it crossed this street before circling around the hills toward Main Street and continuing across the heart of what is now our high valued district in the vicinity of Pershing Square. There is no doubt in my mind but what the location of the City of Los Angeles was determined by the water which was made to flow in that ditch. The records reveal that before the coming of the Spaniards, an Indian Village with ancient traditions, was located by the waters flowing in the Los Angeles River not far from the Plaza.

The first Spaniards brought with them a knowledge of water supply and the principles and practices of irrigation which the northern Europeans did not possess. Theirs was a country of relatively meager water supplies, very similar to Southern California. We are told that the Spaniards acquired their knowledge of the principles of irrigation from a truly desert people, the North African Arabs, who conquered a large part of Spain in about the Eighth Century. Upon the knowledge from that distant source, brought across the seas by the

Spaniards, Southern California's development is based. To it American ingenuity has added pumps, motors, pipe lines and more scientific farming methods.

As human beings we are, in every sense of the word, dependent on the weather. From its changes we get our water and indirectly all our food. People coming to live in Southern California from areas of abundant rainfall, are frequently slow to appreciate this fact. They remember the heavy downpours which occur two or three times during a normal winter when streams overflow, and water rushes along the streets, but forget the dry periods in between, and the frequently rainless summers. In making comparisons with other areas, the fact is often overlooked that there is no city in the United States approaching Los Angeles in size, but what has not only much more rainfall, but has it fairly evenly distributed throughout the year. In other words, they do not have to devise means of conserving the rainfall of the wet period so as to have it available during the dry season.

The storing of water in reservoirs which, by the way, are exceedingly scarce in Southern California, brings other problems. Under our sunny skies, evaporation is high. A reservoir thirty feet deep would entirely disappear by evaporation in five years even though not a drop of water were used from it. Our records reveal periods of sub-normal rainfall of more than five years duration. The difficulty of maintaining water pure and clean during such periods, is another problem. Our great salvation in Southern California has been the fact that the soil beneath our

cities is porous. In the gravels which filled the ancient valleys in the centuries before the coming of the white man, was stored the water upon which we have been living and growing for the last thirty years.

In addition to the fact that Southern California has much less rainfall than cities of equal size throughout the United States, it is not located on a living stream or a fresh water lake. If you will run over in your mind the different large cities, you will realize this significant fact--New York, Chicago, St. Louis, Detroit, and so on. The question of providing water for a great city is not merely one of obtaining a sufficient quantity to carry on from one winter to the next, there is a much broader and more important consideration. The years vary greatly as to the total amount of rainfall which is received. Some years are much wetter than others. Then again we have what are called "cycles" during half of which dry years succeed one another for considerable periods. The longest dry spell is the critical period for which the water supply should be planned if suffering and property loss is to be avoided.

It must be borne in mind that the source of all water which is used by human beings is the rainfall. In the last analysis, there is no other. Since the beginning of the century, the significance of climatic changes upon civilization has begun to be recognized and studied. Some of the greatest authorities on this subject have shown a very definite relationship to exist between changes in climate and the great upheavals and migrations

of people which have occurred from time to time down through the ages. It is generally believed that there has been no permanent change of climate since the Iron Age, though great changes have taken place. Very careful studies reveal that the great movements of barbarian people living on the great plains of Asia and elsewhere occurred during dry cycles. Some have shown with considerable success that the downfall of the Roman Empire was very largely the result of a long dry cycle which ruined the agricultural foundations of the nation. When the farmers were compelled by crop failures to abandon the land where the sturdy qualities of the Roman soldiers had been developed the end began.

To those of us endeavoring to build a great community in a desert environment, these are all important facts. A study of our past history gives them double emphasis. It is fairly said that the history of Southern California can be recited in terms of water supply. The Dons brought with them their horses, cows, sheep, and, in an incredibly short space of time, built a large and profitable industry based on grazing. The abundant feed, and the ideal climate, made their herds increase with amazing rapidity. Cows, mares, ewes, matured a year earlier than in the east, and bore more frequently. Also, there were few of the diseases which occurred in the older countries. Under these conditions the herds rapidly increased to the capacity of the pastures. During the winter and spring, there was almost invariably ample feed for the stock which wandered between the lowlands and the mountain slopes. A year of scant rainfall, however, would leave the pastures dried

up by late summer or early fall. The carrying of the herds through the fall and early winter period, was the great problem of the Spaniards. The more energetic and progressive gringo who came later, sometimes supplemented the natural pastures with cultivated fodder. Nevertheless, the desert climate wrote "finis" to the grazing industry. In the drought of 1858, seventy thousand cattle perished in Southern California. Five years later, in 1863, to all practical purposes, the grazing industry came to an end. Between two and three hundred throusand cattle, or two-thirds of all those in Southern California, died in that drought. It has been reported that one could walk almost across the San Fernando Valley stepping on bones. The cattle industry rapidly fell from first place to third or fourth.

The growing of grain leaped into prominence. By skillful farming, abundant crops could be obtained in the majority of the years. The yield was so exceptional that a total failure every few years due to lack of rainfall, could be accepted. The rest of the story is better known. In the eighties, irrigation was introduced. Then came citrus and other high value products. The mechanical pump was perfected, giving access to the accumulated stores of water in the ground. Every year the drain on our underground reserves has increased. The far-sighted leaders of Los Angeles, of which William Mulholland was undoubtedly among the first, saw clearly that unless an additional supply of water was brought to the Coastal Plain of Southern California from a source not dependent on local rains, our growth would be forever limited.

The population that could have existed without the Owens Valley water, has been liberally estimated as not exceeding 300,000. The finishing of the Los Angeles Aqueduct was the beginning of a new era. With an assured water supply, which at that time was estimated as sufficient for 75 years, industry could with confidence come into this area.

When it was realized that the growth was exceeding the expectations and the amount of water brought in was rapidly being used up, the necessity of obtaining more water became imperative. This was the situation which brought into existence the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California. After seven years of preliminary work, the District is now preparing to start construction on the aqueduct to the Colorado River. The engineering plans are finished and the work will be started as soon as the legal obstacles and requirements can be overcome.

A clear picture of what the construction of the Colorado River Aqueduct will mean to Southern California must take into account two factors. First, its bearing upon our present situation, and secondly, upon the Southern California of tomorrow. To any one who has the time and inclination to go into the facts, it can be easily shown that the amount of water available locally plus that being imported from the Owens Valley, is less than the amount being consumed. In other words, the deficiency is being met by drawing upon the ancient underground reserves which should only be drawn on to meet emergencies.

The general knowledge that our water supply was inadequate, had unmistakably retarded our growth. Industries

are timid about making large investments which may be rendered worthless or impaired by a curtailment of the water supply necessary for operation. Water from the Colorado River will eliminate this condition.

As to the second factor, that is, what the water supply from the Colorado River will mean to Southern California in the coming years, I believe most of you here are in a position to judge equally as well as I. That people throughout the United States want to live in Southern California, goes without saying. That industry has its eyes turned in this direction is quite evident. It has been reported the natural resources capable of supplying 85% of the materials entering into the manufactured products of the United States, are to be found within 300 miles of Los Angeles. Competitive industry will naturally seek the lower production costs to be obtained under the influence of a mild climate contiguous to its market.

The power resources available from local facilities and the great Hoover Dam Project, assures sufficient energy at a reasonable competitive cost. As to the labor supply, Southern California is again in a favorable position. For many years I have made a very careful study of the attitude of people in the Eastern centers toward Southern California. Once or twice a year while in the East, I have selected representative men of many occupations and put the question to them, "Do you want to move to Southern California?" The results indicate clearly that in almost every case they not only want to come to Southern California, but

are willing to do so at a reduced income. The depression has not changed this situation. In fact, it will, in my opinion, increase the migration to Southern California. Under the stress of economic conditions, men who regarded themselves as permanently established in the East, suddenly found themselves uprooted. They are no longer tied to local affairs and social orders. With their remaining resources, they are looking about for new and better opportunities in making a new start. Southern California is going to be the goal of many of these people, and as soon as the present condition, which is certainly on the mend, has sufficiently improved, we will see a growth greater than any experienced in the past.

The Pacific Coast will represent an ever-increasing market. Our local markets are increasing and Pacific markets developing. In years to come, there will be an adjustment of international exchange, and Southern California will undoubtedly become a manufacturing center distributing goods to the teeming millions surrounding the Pacific. Our growth will, in my opinion, take on a somewhat different aspect in the future than it has in the past.

The depression has taught many people the insecurity of a purely industrial civilization. When a man produces nothing which can be eaten, his existence is always uncertain. The devoting of his physical energy and knowledge to producing automobile parts and cigar lighters, makes him absolutely dependent on his daily wage. When that ceases, unless he has accumulated reserves, the problem of food becomes a pressing one, and society

is faced with the problem of feeding him. The answer to this situation is the combining of small scale agriculture with an industrial occupation. The trend is toward shorter working days, and fewer days per week. This will give people more time to themselves. In no better or more healthful way can ~~a~~ man ~~or~~ woman ~~his~~ children their spend such time than in cultivating a small garden surrounding ~~his~~ home, capable of furnishing much of the food which is daily required.

I know of no place in the world where the combination of Garden Home agriculture and industry can be so profitably combined, as in Southern California. Here we have an ever growing industrial center requiring thousands of workers, immediately adjacent to exceedingly fertile soil. Every month of the year can be made to produce a crop. The only element at present lacking is sufficient water to place the small home gardens on an intensive production basis. The supplying of this water will, in my opinion, be one of the great benefits to be derived from the building of the Colorado River Aqueduct.

Aside from the more permanent benefits that I have mentioned, is another factor which in these times of great unemployment we cannot and must not overlook. That is the necessity of providing employable men with work and of getting money into circulation so that others will be given work. The aqueduct will put to work our engineers estimate, within nine months after starting, 4500 men. At the end of twenty months, this will be increased to 9000 and will reach a maximum of over 16,000 toward the later years of construction. You can be assured the Directors of the District

have been devoting every ounce of energy they possess toward getting the work started. No one realizes more than they, the responsibility which rests upon them. However, the obstructive forces working through the complications of law are making the problem exceedingly difficult.

If all the difficulties now confronting the Board could be cleared away expeditiously, the work can be started within a month or six weeks. All our thought and energy have been directed to this end. We are optimistic enough to believe we will succeed.

In our present age nearly every one concedes a democracy to be the best type of government yet devised by man. However, we must grant that in certain respects other forms have something to be said in favor of them. In conclusion, I am going to illustrate what I mean by an incident from history. When Napoleon returned from one of his Eastern campaigns, he decided, or probably felt it expedient, to do something in a big way for the City of Paris. He called in the Minister of Home Affairs and asked him, "What can I do to give Paris a population of two million people within the next ten years?" Such an undertaking was a pretty big job when we realize that Paris at the time only had a population in the neighborhood of six hundred thousand. The Minister of Home Affairs answered the question promptly, and said, "Give Paris an adequate water supply." Napoleon then asked him if he had any specific proposal in mind which he could recommend. Thereupon the Minister of Home Affairs outlined a plan of constructing a canal to a stream some distance from the City. When he had finished talking, Napoleon

said, "Your plan is good. We will start tomorrow. Send five hundred men out to work in the morning."

WHT

REMARKS BY W. P. WHITSETT

DOWNTOWN BUSINESSMEN'S ASSOCIATION

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 1932

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To Los Angeles and Southern California the necessity for an adequate water supply is greater than even was that of Paris of a hundred years ago. Ours is a desert environment. There are no flowing streams, our rainfall comes in concentrated periods, the total is little and must be made to serve through the long dry season.

Of all the larger cities in the world, I can not think of one that is not situated on a living stream or a large body of water. I can not recall that there is in the United States a city comparable with the size of Los Angeles but what has twice or more times the rainfall to feed its water supply. These are facts that it is well for us to remind ourselves of from time to time.

The charm of our weather is at once our greatest benefactor and our worst enemy. Los Angeles startled the world when she built the Owens Valley Aqueduct. It was a project which in size and magnitude defied the imagination of those unaccustomed to the proportions of the desert in its calculations. If ever a city made a better investment than was that project, I would like

to know about it. For twenty-five years our growth has been around the outlet of the steel and concrete tube leading up to the High Sierras. Without that water supply, you businessmen would probably still be keeping shop on North Main Street instead of the gigantic and monumental structures you have built. A city of three hundred or possibly four hundred thousand, with its limited powers, would have been the extent of our growth today. We are no greater than our water supply.

The water supply from which we have been drawing is gone. It has all been put to use. We are again preparing to startle the world in the building of the Colorado River aqueduct upon which our growth will continue. Not only will it provide for growth, but will assure that what has already been wrenched from the desert will not again be taken away.

Our margin of water supply is too narrow. The dry seasons have eaten up the wet until the immediate future holds the threat of anxious looking into pipes and wells after they have ceased to flow.

However, these are things of the past. Our problems are now being solved. The aqueduct project is under way. As the Los Angeles Aqueduct was built with an efficiency and thoroughness that hasbeen our renown, so will the Metropolitan Water District aqueduct be built. At least that is the sincere conviction of those now constituting its Board of Directors. There is not on that Board a man who has a desire other than to see the job done the best and the cheapest way possible. To us who are giving our time to this work, there will be no reward but the satisfaction of having done a big job well. The dollars that we succeeded in saving Southern California will be an index of our success.

We have proceeded cautiously. Seven years have been devoted to the work by the best men that could be obtained. Twice a Board of Review consisting of three nationally known engineers passed upon the early studies. Later a Consulting Board

of five men passed upon the project. Their investigations were complete and exhaustive. Recent proposals that this and that route had not been properly investigated are not well founded. In practically every case the plans proposed were found to have been investigated as to their particular features or their general economics and technical advantages and disadvantages.

Recently the Directors of the District had the benefit of the most searching investigations of an entirely impartial nature than I believe any other similar engineering project ever received. Because of the temporary conditions in the bond market the District made an application to the Reconstruction Finance Corporation for a loan under the provisions of the relief legislation relating to self-liquidating projects. Its application was the first to be acted upon.

It was to the experts of the Reconstruction Finance Corporation not only its first case, but one of the biggest which they will be called upon to handle. The Advisory Board of Engineers selected by the Reconstruction Finance Corporation is composed of some of the most outstanding men in the engineering profession. They satisfied themselves and are known to have submitted a report approving the project in all of its technical aspects. In addition there were made the most exhaustive legal, financial, and economic studies that I have ever known under such circumstances. Every one was favorable and the loan was granted.

If we stop a moment to realize what this means to Southern California, it should make us very proud indeed. It means that these experts are willing to say to the Government, "Southern California is economically sound, and its credit is good." To the people throughout this nation struggling to keep up side down pyramids standing, that report must be a sound like solid gold on the showcase top.

People are looking this way. There is no mistake about that. I have kept myself informed of the way Eastern people feel about Southern California. Their eyes are now turned this way more than ever before. In a national disturbance, in fact in an international disturbance of an established order such as we are just passing through, there is a general shaking up and breaking loose of people from

the circumstances that bound them. With the old associations eliminated, people are freer to move than they have been for many years. In building themselves into new social patterns they are not going to hesitate to follow the best opportunities to their source. That is Southern California.

That, also, is an added reason why the Metropolitan aqueduct must be built as soon as possible. With the restoration of our economic equilibrium, there is going to be a movement into Southern California even greater than those great migrations which we have experienced in the past. Without more water than we have, we can not sustain our present growth. With the new aqueduct finished, there will flow in on those waters, population, and industrial and commercial development beyond our most optimistic dreams.

WHT
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Speeches WHT 9

REMARKS BY W. P. WHITSETT AT CONFERENCE
AT THE BILTMORE HOTEL JUNE 5, 1933

Industry is like an army, it moves on its belly. The primary questions of civilization are - Where do we eat? - How good is it, and what does it cost? and How comfortable ~~and~~ our living conditions? In this period of decentralization, industry is going to follow its markets closer than ever before. There is no place where the growing market possibilities should have more of an appeal to industry than in Southern California because with the possibility for economic feeding of a large population, the availability of raw materials, the assurance of cheap hydro-electric power and the existence of ideal living and manufacturing conditions.

When these possibilities are considered in connection with the million acre feet of water which will be brought to Southern California providing sufficient water for a million garden acre homes and a population of five million people, these garden homes later can be subdivided into five million lots, each accommodating a family of five, the amount of water mentioned being water adequate for the maintenance of such a development. To the careful observer, it can readily be seen that this section has the most promising future of any place in the United States.

Let us examine the situation in its world-wide aspects. Twenty-five years ago Teddy Roosevelt said, "The Mediterranean era died with the discovery of America. The Atlantic era is now at the height of its development and must soon exhaust the resources at its command. The Pacific era, destined to be the greatest of all, is just at its dawn."

Now let us see what Franklin D. Roosevelt proposes to do with the world economic conference to be held in London this month. We understand that the proposal will be made to reduce the legal metallic cover for notes from 40 to 25% of which 5% will consist of silver. There are at present approsimately twelve billion dollars of gold in the central banks of the world. Under the proposed plan three billions of silver will be added, on the combined basis of which will be justified the issuance of sixty billion dollars of currency. This amount of currency is comparable to an estimated amount of fourteen millions at present.

The utilization of silver as the monetary unit will undoubtedly cause its price to advance beyond fifty cents an ounce thereby doubling the purchasing power of over half the population of the world, most of which is in dire need of the most compelling necessities of life.

Southern California is in an ideal position to get its share of that trade together with that of the silver using countries of South America, and in addition it is in a position to take advantage of the opening up of the silver mines and in the increase of the raw basic commodities produced by agriculture. With the balance of the world so largely in debt to the United States it would seem perfectly logical that they will agree to such a program because it means a lessening of their obligations to this Nation.

WHT
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REMARKS BY W. P. WHITSETT

January 24, 1933

The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California has received in cash, $2,016,000 of the $40,000,000 credit advanced by the Reconstruction Finance Corporation for constructing the Colorado River Aqueduct. Work is now being started both by contract and by force account.

The Metropolitan Engineering Corporation was awarded the contract for construction of the San Jacinto Tunnel and within the past few days are reported to have qualified on their bond. During the current week the contract will probably be signed and they are expected to proceed immediately with the construction of that great tunnel sufficient in size to carry the full 1500 second feet through the San Jacinto Mountains.

The District's permanent headquarters building at Banning is nearing completion. Our General Manager and Chief Engineer, Mr. F. E. Weymouth, is rushing the construction camps at various sites along the base of the Little San Bernardino Mountains. In the near future, he plans to start actual construction on the Coachella Tunnels. Two thousand men are expected to be on the job in April, and four thousand in June.

It has been a hard, long fight to get this great project under way. In these trying times we need the fighting spirit of the early pioneers who carved this empire of the Pacific Southwest out of desert. If we can rejuvenate that fighting spirit, the strength, courage, and determination, to carry on that they displayed, we will conquer the problems before us. In Southern California we not only have all the natural advantages that were enjoyed by the early pioneers, but the many other things that have been added by work and by science that make this the white spot of America. But we need that spirit of fight, and let us not forget that it isn't the size of the dog in the fight, but it is the size of the fight in the dog that wins.

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M_E_M_O_R_A_N_D_U_M
by
W. P. Whitsett
January 17, 1933

The future of Southern California, its people and their investments, depends on what the intelligent, constructive leaders do today with regard to the Metropolitan Water District aqueduct. In some respects, the situation is similar to the occasion when Benjamin Franklin said, "We must hang together or we shall surely hang separately." Shortsighted and selfish forces are building up which are threatening in one way or another the successful completion of the aqueduct.

Nearly every one who has conscientiously and competently investigated facts with regard to water supply in Southern California, knows that it is inadequate. We have before us the evidence of continually lowering ground water levels locally and in the Owens Valley. We know of the salt water encroachments. We know of the disasters that have happened in the past because of lack of water. The uncertainty of the rainfall from year to year is known by every one who has lived here a few years or longer. We know that all of our property values are ultimately based on a dependable water supply.

Southern California's growth in the past has been remarkable but will continue. The primary element of that growth is unquestionably climate which will always remain a magnet to people living under the severe seasonal conditions of the North and East.

The health-giving rays of the sun are becoming ever more appreciated. People want their children to be raised in a healthful environment under the tonic of the sun with outdoor play throughout the year. The general superiority of Westerners in athletics is entirely explainable in terms of climate.

The factors that have created growth in the past have not been changed, and are, if anything, more vital.

During the last ten years, a period of restricted foreign immigration, Los Angeles was the only metropolitan city in the United States to double its population. In 50 years, Los Angeles has advanced in size from the 199th city in the United States to the fifth. The State as a whole, has advanced in 50 years from 24th to 6th. In ten years, the population of the State increased two and a quarter million, or a greater increase than any other State ever experienced in a census decade. The three Pacific Coast states in the ten-year period from 1920-1930, recorded a gain of 47% in comparison with the 14% gain for the entire section west of the Mississippi, and 16.1% for the United States as a whole.

The United States in the last ten years, increased its population by 17,000,000 persons, of which California accounted for 13.1%. It must be remembered that this was a period of the declining birth rate and restricted immigration. The factors that brought about those increases have not changed, but are ever becoming more important.

California did not only gain in population. In State and National banking growth between 1920 and 1930, the gain in resources

was 69.7%; the State as a whole in 1930 ranked third in the per capita banking resources with an average of $739.35 per capita.

During the period from 1910 to 1920, foreign commerce through Atlantic ports gained 288%, that through Pacific ports gained 458%. In the following nine years, the Atlantic commerce suffered a loss of 38% and the foreign commerce through Pacific ports increased 24%. In 20 years, the Atlantic commerce gained 139% and Pacific commerce 591%.

President Roosevelt, a far-seeing Statesman, said some 25 years ago, "The Mediterranean era died with the discovery of America. The Atlantic era is now at the height of its development and must soon exhaust the resources at its command. The Pacific era, destined to be the greatest of all, is just at its dawn."

The value of the exports from the Los Angeles Harbor increased from $748,000 in 1915 to $161,000,000 in 1930.

Unquestionably one of the great factors in the future growth of California, and particularly Southern California, will be the aviation industry. In 1930, more than 12% of all the aircraft in the United States at that date, were in California and the State accounted for more than 18% of all the country's licensed pilots. In the same year the State had 164 airports, which was more than any other State, by a big margin. As aviation becomes a more important factor in our national life, the greater commercial and recreational use of the airplane will give California an ever-increasing advantage.

In the ten years from 1919 to 1929, Pacific Coast States accounted for almost 16% of the total reported increase in manu-

factures in the United States; the annual output of some 18,000 manufacturing plants aggregating $4,310,000,000. In 1930, California led all the other states with its retail sales, averaging $573.75 per capita. Los Angeles was 6th among the cities of the United States in per capita retail sales.

In the value of farm products, California ranked second among the States in 1930; in the production of minerals, fourth.

The foregoing statistics are an adequate basis on which we can accurately judge the future. Fundamentals which brought about those gains, have not changed, but will become ever greater provided an adequate water supply is available.

In directing the work of providing such a water supply, the Board of Directors of the District have one primary purpose, which is to do the job in the best way possible; to do it as well, and if possible better, than was done in the building of the Los Angeles aqueduct.

In assuming their responsibility, the Directors need, and believe they have a right to ask, that all of the capable leaders of our communities who have the interest of Southern California at heart, stand behind us in this program. We can not always expect to agree with these leaders on all subjects. There will be points of difference for one reason and another. These should, and in fact must, be dealt with on an understanding basis while the absolute unity in a common objective is maintained.

Among the members of the Los Angeles Citizens Colorado River Aqueduct Committee, a question has been raised as to the method

of doing the work. Over a year ago, the District announced its policy of dividing the aqueduct up into convenient units and calling for bids on each one of them in the proper order, but reserving a decision as to the method to be employed until the bids had been examined and compared with the estimates submitted by our General Manager and Chief Engineer. After many unavoidable delays by reason of lawsuits, the work was started in accordance with that policy. Bids were received for the San Jacinto Tunnel and the contract awarded to the lowest bidder. In awarding that contract, there was a division of opinion among the members of the District's Board. The different viewpoints represented two different schools of thought.

In this connection, I want to point out that in the four years in which the District has been functioning, practically every major decision has received unanimous approval of the entire Board. I believe that that is some kind of a record when it is taken into account that thirteen cities, large and small, antagonists on many questions, were involved. We are proud of the harmony and understanding which has been developed between Los Angeles and the outlying cities. In this respect alone, the District has already rendered a great service to all Southern California by breaking down to a large degree the mutual suspicion and distrust which previously prevailed. The progress made must be preserved by a policy of fair give and take.

Most of the Directors advocating the force account method, were from the outside cities. They conscientiously believed their interests would be best served by that method. When the second unit of the work came up for starting, the question of how soon the work

would begin was important. During the election it was frankly said that the aqueduct would provide employment for many men. Under the present conditions of unemployment, the Directors did not feel justified in permitting any unnecessary delay. The fact that under the force account method the second unit could be started several months sooner, was an important consideration.

The starting of the second unit by force account, and calling for bids on the large units to follow, was a satisfactory and acceptable compromise to those members who were particularly favorable to the force account method.

The procedure has a distinct advantage, in that it will give direct comparison between the two methods, forcing each to its best effort and giving a constant check on their respective efficiencies. The fact that the District was to a certain extent organized to undertake any subsequent units of the work would also compel contractors to submit fair bids and to refrain from combinations created to fix prices by eliminating competition.

Also, must be borne in mind and clearly understood, is the fact that the carrying on of some of the work by force account gives a greater flexibility with regard to finances. While the Federal Government has agreed to advance the District $40,000,000, to be used in two years, there always exists the possibility of unforeseen difficulties arising which might temporarily hold up the steady flow of funds. In that case, the portion of the work being done by force account could be curtailed without considerable loss. This would not be the case if all the work were being done by contractors who would

have to be compensated for shut-downs.

The Directors of the District feel they must have the present members of the Citizens Committee with them. If the Committee members disagree with any policy of the District, they, of course, have a right to object. We will be glad, in connection with the subject now under discussion, to have you issue a public statement that the Citizens Committee is opposed to the doing of any of the work by force account. That would place you in the clear. However, with regard to matters on which there is agreement, we should stand together and work for the common interest of our communities and Southern California.

At the present time, the District is undertaking a complete review and analysis of the entire project with a view to all possible economies and deferments that might be effected. While $220,000,000 were voted in bonds, the Directors of the District do not intend to spend a dime more than is absolutely necessary to furnish this area with a water supply in the quantity which it must have for present security and potentially certain future development. They want the assistance and support of the Citizens Committee in dealing with the problems which this involves.

The Directors of the District are faced with a tremendous problem and responsibility. The solution can not be properly effected or the responsibility dealt with unless the distractions which ordinarily confront a public project, are eliminated. The designing and unscrupulous politicians and racketeers of every kind must be compelled to keep their hands off this non-partisan undertaking to supply

our cities with an adequate water supply. It must be carried on purely on the basis of merit and efficiency. In helping us maintain the project on the high plain on which it has so far been carried, the Citizens Committee will render a service of inestimable value and one in every sense as great as that which the Directors of the District will succeed in accomplishing.

WHT
7

OUTLINE OF REMARKS FOR PRESENTATION AT THE
MEETING OF THE LONG BEACH REALTY BOARD
by
W. P. Whitsett

April 6, 1933

Mr. Chairman, Members and Guests:

I distinctly appreciate the privilege of your invitation, extended through Director Cook, to address you on the subject of the Metropolitan Water District. It is probably the livest question in Southern California today, if not in the entire country.

In connection with the recent earthquake, there are certain considerations related to the Metropolitan Water District which are particularly significant at this time, and which I want to point out.

First, let me commend you on the efficient and courageous way in which you dealt with the catastrophe. It was unquestionably an excellent example of emergency community organization.

As a result of the damage which the earthquake caused there has gone forth throughout this country glaring and frequently exaggerated news items and pictures, both moving and otherwise, selected for their spectacular value. The general effect of these things, which might in a sense be called propaganda, may be, as in a similar manner was the case in the Miami hurricane, to cause some to question the desirability of Southern California as a place to live. The only way, in my opinion, to counteract the vicious forces that have been set in motion is to do just as I am informed you are doing, and that is, to drive forward not only with the program which

had been outlined previous to the earthquake, but with an even greater and more dynamic program. I am told that your beautiful city with its magnificent facilities for such things, is prepared to receive a rapid succession of conventions beginning immediately, with some now actually in progress.

This same plan is in effect the one which is being followed by the Metropolitan Water District. Any hesitation, delay, or suspension of activities on the construction of the Metropolitan aqueduct, which is being watched intently by every part of this nation, would immediately reinforce and substantiate the impression which may have been created by the propaganda I have referred to. Intense as has been our efforts to increase the amount of work under way, even greater efforts are being put forward at the present time.

In order that the entire nation may know that Southern California is not in the least daunted by the earthquake, a great celebration is being planned which will probably be held at Cabazon on the 29th of this month. It will be an occasion appropriately designed to commemorate the real starting of the work on the world's largest water supply system. Besides those representing the cities of the District, there will be thousands of people present from everywhere and speakers of national prominence will be on the program. Funds are now being raised to broadcast, over a national hookup, the main features, if not the entire program. I am sure you gentelemen will realize and appreciate how much that event, if successfully conducted, will mean to your City and the entire Metropolitan area of which we are all a part. On behalf of the District, I extend to

you and all the citizens of Long Beach an invitation to be present and participate.

Personally, I am sold on Southern California 100 percent. I came here almost 30 years ago for reasons of poor health. As soon as I got on my feet I began to systematically and carefully investigate the possibilities of this area. As a result of those studies I have made predictions and plans which without exception exceeded my expectations as to growth.

This is a land of destiny. Regardless of immigration, birth rate, and other factors we hear so much about, Southern California will continue to grow. It is one of those rare places of which there are very few in the world, where people want to live because they yield the fullest and most comfortable life.

A great deal of talk is heard from people of a pessimistic frame of mind who feel that the entire picture has been changed by the depression we are passing through. I don't agree with them. We still have everything we had before. Our attractiveness as a land of pleasant homes has not diminished. Only this morning the newspapers report that Mr. George M. Reynolds, who recently retired as the head of the Continental Illinois Bank and Trust Company of Chicago, is planning to move his family permanently to Southern California. The flow of population such as we experienced in the last census decade has only been restrained and dammed up. After the depression I believe we will have an influx of people equal to, if not greater than any we have experienced heretofore.

History indicates that in many cases forces are set up during a depression which result in the migration of people. There are many reasons for this--an important one being the breaking up of social groups and business connections, leaving many people free to begin over again, and in doing so, they look about for new younger and more vigorous places, where major developments are going forward. The locations receiving the greatest consideration today are those where there is an unmonopolized growing market available for expansion; where productive garden land is available for industrial and commercial employees to profitably utilize the surplus time which, with the modern tendency toward shorter hours, will increase as time goes on; where there is an ample, dependable supply of water for all purposes, and hydro-electric power available at low competitive rates; and where there exists a broad range of raw materials, industrial possibilities and opportunities to manufacture a diversified number of basic commodities.

All of these factors are available in Southern California at the present time, with the exception of an adequate water supply. We have an unmonopolized local market that is growing year by year. Opportunities for international trade are increasing and will continue to increase. During the period from 1910 to 1920 the foreign commerce passing through Pacific ports gained 485%, while that passing through Atlantic ports gained 288%. In the following nine years commerce through Atlantic ports fell off 38% and that through Pacific ports increased 24%. In 20 years our foreign commerce

of the Pacific Coast has gained 591%. The value of exports from this harbor increased from $748,000. in 1915 to $161,000,000. in 1930. With the awakening of the Far East, these figures should tend to increase rather than decrease.

In the opportunity to use productive garden land as an auxiliary to industry, Southern California is not excelled by any place in the world of which I have knowledge. The modern tendency to decentralize industry, made possible by modern transportation methods and systems, will foster the establishment of smaller industrial plants located in rural areas where the workmen will have the opportunity to utilize their idle time on garden homes located on lands near and surrounding the plants. These homes will make workmen more independent than has ever been the case before, by supplementing their income in the form of food supplied directly from their own gardens. These gardens will serve during the periods when industry is curtailed or suspended, as a means of livelihood to tie over the interval. Furthermore, the opportunity to produce much of the family food requirements enables producers to retire at a younger age, with much less resources than would otherwise be the case.

The Hoover Dam will furnish a great additional supply of power to this area for the use of industries, particularly those of a basic character. And finally, as to the production of commodities, there is no place else in the United States where, by reason of climate and the availability of diversified raw

materials of high quality, that can compare with Southern California.

Therefore, the only factor lacking, as I said before, is that of an adequate water supply. No doubt many of you are familiar with the curves and charts maintained by your own water department, which show how the water levels have fallen in this and other portions of Southern California, and how the salt water has been steadily moving inland for many years. We will not be safe and secure until the Colorado River aqueduct is completed.

Recently a report was prepared which presented information concerning the accounts of droughts in Southern California which I found exceedingly instructive. It seems that in the past 150 years there have been two long periods of drought, the first lasting 28 years and the second 41. In both of those periods Lake Elsinore dried up completely, which it probably has not done within the memory of anyone in this room. The present subnormal period of rainfall has persisted for about 16 years. These 16 years, the Engineers show, are very similar in character to those which occurred in the early part of the droughts which I have mentioned. The significant thing is, however, that we have not had what might be termed a major demand upon our water resources since this area attained a population in excess of 100,000 people. In my opinion, every dictate of caution and good business management should impel us to drive forward this work with every possible speed consistent with economical and sound procedure.

At present the District has at work considerable over a thousand people. They are being selected from among the citizens

of our member cities who can qualify by residence and are competent to do the work.

Much of the work now in progress has to do with the preliminary features of the project. Hundreds of miles of roads, long pipe lines carrying water across the desert to the job, power lines for construction purposes, telephone systems linking up the camps with the different headquarters, are now well under way. A large responsible contracting firm is at work on the San Jacinto Tunnel, the biggest single unit on the project. Forces engaged by the District are burrowing into the Little San Bernardino Mountains at work on the Coachella Tunnels. A few days ago bids were opened on two additional tunnels and I have preliminary information that fair prices and responsible bids have been received. Within a few weeks bids will be opened on three more large tunnels. Several thousand additional men will be on the job by summer. It is the starting of all these units that will be the cause of the celebration of which I spoke to you before, and at which I hope every one of you will be present.

There is just one remark I feel I would like to make in closing. When the project was formally started bonds were voted by an overwhelming majority to the amount of $220,000,000. The estimates ~~upon~~ fixed which the amount of bonds voted were based upon the trend of prices which existed prior to that time. On the basis of the new levels which can now be calculated as probably existing for the next five or six years, and by reason possibly of other savings, our engineers have reduced those figures to $179,000,000.

This is a preliminary saving over the original estimate of over $40,000,000 and we have hopes of still further reducing the cost.

As to the policy of the Board in carrying out the work, I believe I can frankly say that every member has no other desire than to complete the project at the lowest possible cost consistent with our water requirements and the dictates of sound economics and engineering construction. Anything that can be deferred or postponed without departing from these principles, in my opinion, should be so dealt with. In fact, I have advocated that every part of the project except the tunnels, which are the determining feature throughout, be gone over with a microscope to determine whether any further savings can be made or have been overlooked.

From our short acquaintance with Mr. Cook, your Director on the Board of the District, I am sure you have every right to be confident that he will continue to insist that the Colorado River aqueduct be built in a hard-boiled, businesslike way. Every employee must be selected on the basis of his qualifications--every contract and purchase made must be on the basis of fair competition and the merits of the product to be acquired.

WHT
7

Remarks Prepared for the Occasion of the
CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRIES BANQUET
March 16, 1933
by
W. P. WHITSETT

Migrations follow depressions.

When business connections become broken, home ties are uprooted and people cast about for more favored locations in which to make a new start.

With the construction work on Hoover Dam progressing well ahead of schedule; with contracts for over $11,000,000 awarded by The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California for the construction of the Colorado River Aqueduct; with the Coachella tunnels being crowded ahead under force account by our Chief Engineer and General Manager Frank E. Weymouth; with bids to be opened in the next few days for several million dollars worth of additional construction, and advertisements now running for many additional million dollars' of contracts to be let, and other specifications ready to be advertised.....in the light of all this, the eyes of the Nation are on these two major projects -- the Hoover Dam and the Colorado River Aqueduct.

Men of experience and ability throughout this nation well know that an ample, dependable supply of water for Southern California, added to all the advantages of our location and semi-tropical climate, means not only the stability of our present growth and development, but it means new opportunities, new development, new employment, and the creation of new wealth.

Our growth lies in the future and not in the past.

Twenty-five years ago Theodore Roosevelt said -- the Mediterranean era died with the discovery of America. The Atlantic era is now at the height of its development and must soon exhaust its natural resources. The Pacific era, the greatest of all, is just at its dawn. Japan is prodding China out of her long slumber and China, in her humiliation, will turn to western ways and markets for a solution of her problems.

The Pacific Coast is the logical market for the trans-Pacific trade. Industry is going to follow its markets more closely than ever before.

There is now setting in throughout the older industrial sections and large eastern cities, a period of decentralization. Industry, today, is more concerned with the problem of its employees than ever before. Leaders of thought and action know that we have definitely come to the shorter-hour day and the shorter-day week; that the amount of wages paid is not paramount, but the economic problem resolves itself into <u>what</u> the worker can obtain for those wages. The vital question is: Where do we eat? How good is it? How dependable is it? What does it cost? And how comfortable are the surroundings? The answer lies in productive garden land going hand in hand with Industry.

Locations receiving the greatest consideration today are those locations where an unmonopolized growing market is available for expansion; where productive garden land is available for the employees to profitably utilize their surplus time; where there is an ample dependable supply of water, cheap hydro-electric power, a broad range of basic commodities.

The most important of these factors is water. In the past it has been the weak link in our chain. Certain as fate rainfall has failed us at intervals of years but not in a major sense since Los Angeles has been a great population center. Twice Lake Elsinore has dried up, but not in this century. Two noteworthy periods of drought have occurred which may come upon us again at any time, one lasting twenty-eight years and the other forty-two. Only with an aqueduct to the Colorado River of size sufficient to protect our people and their investments against the uncertainties of weather can we live and expand with security.

The tunnels of the Colorado River aqueduct are its controlling features. They should, in my opinion, be built as planned. The fact must be borne in mind that it takes two tunnels twelve feet in diameter to carry the same amount of water which the sixteen foot tunnel, such as now being constructed, will carry. Furthermore, constructing two parallel tunnels will increase the length of these structures to be maintained from 85 to 170 miles, in addition to the much greater capital cost involved. The difference in cost between half size and full size tunnels is about $11,000,000, only about 5% increase being involved if the tunnels on the smaller line are built for the full capacity, which careful studies have shown will be required within economical time limits. In view of the importance of these features of the aqueduct to the future of Southern California, I have given them particular emphasis. In the features of the project other than the tunnels I favor the

effecting of every possible sound economy. Prices of materials and construction efficiencies are very favorable to us now. Capital charges can and will be deferred, thereby keeping costs to a minimum pending receipt of revenue from the sale of water.

We must prepare for the future or forfeit our rights to advance. Southern California is inherently and fundamentally sound and with a sound and ample water supply will continue to grow. Within our limits are to be found the fundamentals which I mentioned before--unmonopolized markets available for expansion, productive garden land suitably located with respect to industry, cheap hydro-electric power, and a broad range of basic commodity activities. There is no place we know of where a garden acre will produce as much and as great a variety of food for the family, 365 day of the year, as in Southern California.

In the High Sierras there are 2300 lakes surrounded by mountain peaks of a greater average height than in Switzerland. Los Angeles has recently purchased the land largely controlling this scenic territory. It should be annexed to the City of Los Angeles and made a great park. These attractions are yet undeveloped and when fully realized and utilized will make this district more renowned as a summer playground than it has been as a winter resort.

New desert recreational possibilities will be opened up by the Colorado River Aqueduct. It is going to become more popular to bathe under the beneficial rays of the sun in our

deserts in winter than it has been at our beaches in the summer.

Southern California is becoming world renowned as a cultural center. Already it is the Mecca of men and women famed in science, letters and the arts.

Modern invention has reduced the distance that formerly separated California from the rest of the nation. Improved highways, highly-efficient light speedy automobiles, the swift airplane and trans-continental railways striving to compete, plus a growing desire in the citizenry of this country to "see America first" are combining to bring about an unprecedented all-year-round tourist traffic.

All these natural advantages make for new growth and development -- for balanced and well-rounded living.

Few of us have a true conception of the wealth creating opportunities and possibilities of those great twin projects -- the Hoover Dam and the Colorado River Aqueduct. The harnassing and controlling of the power of the Colorado River and the bringing of this life-giving water to Southern California assures that this section will be a self-sustaining economic unit, subsisting largely on its own growth throughout a long period of prosperity.

Already there is a shortage of single family homes. And this new desire for security and independence which is responsible for the back-to-the-land movement that is now taking place, is creating a great fundamental urge for more homes. Add to this the increasing desire of Industry to locate where

potential and growing trans-Pacific markets are available, and the conclusion must be reached that the migration of Industry and population is headed directly to Southern California in ever-increasing proportions.

Let us therefore emulate the fighting spirit of the early pioneers who carved this empire from the desert. Let us go forth from this day with new hope, new courage, and new determination to make this "new deal" win.

Southern California is the most favored part of the nation and we should set the example, lead the way. This body of men should send the message of new hope, courage and determination to carry on, back to Franklin D. Roosevelt, President of these United States of America.

WHIT
7

REMARKS BY W. P. WHITSETT

January 24, 1933

The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California has received in cash, $2,016,000 of the $40,000,000 credit advanced by the Reconstruction Finance Corporation for constructing the Colorado River Aqueduct. Work is now being started both by contract and by force account.

The Metropolitan Engineering Corporation was awarded the contract for construction of the San Jacinto Tunnel and within the past few days are reported to have qualified on their bond. During the current week the contract will probably be signed and they are expected to proceed immediately with the construction of that great tunnel sufficient in size to carry the full 1500 second feet through the San Jacinto Mountains.

The District's permanent headquarters building at Banning is nearing completion. Our General Manager and Chief Engineer, Mr. F. E. Weymouth, is rushing the construction camps at various sites along the base of the Little San Bernardino Mountains. In the near future, he plans to start actual construction on the Coachella Tunnels. Two thousand men are expected to be on the job in April, and four thousand in June.

It has been a hard, long fight to get this great project under way. In these trying times we need the fighting spirit of the early pioneers who carved this empire of the Pacific Southwest out of desert. If we can rejuvenate that fighting spirit, the strength, courage, and determination, to carry on that they displayed, we will conquer the problems before us. In Southern California we not only have all the natural advantages that were enjoyed by the early pioneers, but the many other things that have been added by work and by science that make this the white spot of America. But we need that spirit of fight, and let us not forget that it isn't the size of the dog in the fight, but it is the size of the fight in the dog that wins.

WHT
7

M_E_M_O_R_A_N_D_U_M
by
W. P. Whitsett
January 17, 1933

The future of Southern California, its people and their investments, depends on what the intelligent, constructive leaders do today with regard to the Metropolitan Water District aqueduct. In some respects, the situation is similar to the occasion when Benjamin Franklin said, "We must hang together or we shall surely hang separately." Shortsighted and selfish forces are building up which are threatening in one way or another the successful completion of the aqueduct.

Nearly every one who has conscientiously and competently investigated facts with regard to water supply in Southern California, knows that it is inadequate. We have before us the evidence of continually lowering ground water levels locally and in the Owens Valley. We know of the salt water encroachments. We know of the disasters that have happened in the past because of lack of water. The uncertainty of the rainfall from year to year is known by every one who has lived here a few years or longer. We know that all of our property values are ultimately based on a dependable water supply.

Southern California's growth in the past has been remarkable but will continue. The primary element of that growth is unquestionably climate which will always remain a magnet to people living under the severe seasonal conditions of the North and East.

The health-giving rays of the sun are becoming ever more appreciated. People want their children to be raised in a healthful environment under the tonic of the sun with outdoor play throughout the year. The general superiority of Westerners in athletics is entirely explainable in terms of climate.

The factors that have created growth in the past have not been changed, and are, if anything, more vital.

During the last ten years, a period of restricted foreign immigration, Los Angeles was the only metropolitan city in the United States to double its population. In 50 years, Los Angeles has advanced in size from the 199th city in the United States to the fifth. The State as a whole, has advanced in 50 years from 24th to 6th. In ten years, the population of the State increased two and a quarter million, or a greater increase than any other State ever experienced in a census decade. The three Pacific Coast states in the ten-year period from 1920-1930, recorded a gain of 47% in comparison with the 14% gain for the entire section west of the Mississippi, and 16.1% for the United States as a whole.

The United States in the last ten years, increased its population by 17,000,000 persons, of which California accounted for 13.1%. It must be remembered that this was a period of the declining birth rate and restricted immigration. The factors that brought about those increases have not changed, but are ever becoming more important.

California did not only gain in population. In State and National banking growth between 1920 and 1930, the gain in resources

was 69.7%; the State as a whole in 1930 ranked third in the per capita banking resources with an average of $739.35 per capita.

During the period from 1910 to 1920, foreign commerce through Atlantic ports gained 288%, that through Pacific ports gained 458%. In the following nine years, the Atlantic commerce suffered a loss of 38% and the foreign commerce through Pacific ports increased 24%. In 20 years, the Atlantic commerce gained 139% and Pacific commerce 591%.

President Roosevelt, a far-seeing Statesman, said some 25 years ago, "The Mediterranean era died with the discovery of America. The Atlantic era is now at the height of its development and must soon exhaust the resources at its command. The Pacific era, destined to be the greatest of all, is just at its dawn."

The value of the exports from the Los Angeles Harbor increased from $748,000 in 1915 to $161,000,000 in 1930.

Unquestionably one of the great factors in the future growth of California, and particularly Southern California, will be the aviation industry. In 1930, more than 12% of all the aircraft in the United States at that date, were in California and the State accounted for more than 18% of all the country's licensed pilots. In the same year the State had 164 airports, which was more than any other State, by a big margin. As aviation becomes a more important factor in our national life, the greater commercial and recreational use of the airplane will give California an ever-increasing advantage.

In the ten years from 1919 to 1929, Pacific Coast States accounted for almost 16% of the total reported increase in manu-

factures in the United States; the annual output of some 18,000 manufacturing plants aggregating $4,310,000,000. In 1930, California led all the other states with its retail sales, averaging $573.75 per capita. Los Angeles was 6th among the cities of the United States in per capita retail sales.

In the value of farm products, California ranked second among the States in 1930; in the production of minerals, fourth.

The foregoing statistics are an adequate basis on which we can accurately judge the future. Fundamentals which brought about those gains, have not changed, but will become ever greater provided an adequate water supply is available.

In directing the work of providing such a water supply, the Board of Directors of the District have one primary purpose, which is to do the job in the best way possible; to do it as well, and if possible better, than was done in the building of the Los Angeles aqueduct.

In assuming their responsibility, the Directors need, and believe they have a right to ask, that all of the capable leaders of our communities who have the interest of Southern California at heart, stand behind us in this program. We can not always expect to agree with these leaders on all subjects. There will be points of difference for one reason and another. These should, and in fact must, be dealt with on an understanding basis while the absolute unity in a common objective is maintained.

Among the members of the Los Angeles Citizens Colorado River Aqueduct Committee, a question has been raised as to the method

of doing the work. Over a year ago, the District announced its policy of dividing the aqueduct up into convenient units and calling for bids on each one of them in the proper order, but reserving a decision as to the method to be employed until the bids had been examined and compared with the estimates submitted by our General Manager and Chief Engineer. After many unavoidable delays by reason of lawsuits, the work was started in accordance with that policy. Bids were received for the San Jacinto Tunnel and the contract awarded to the lowest bidder. In awarding that contract, there was a division of opinion among the members of the District's Board. The different viewpoints represented two different schools of thought.

In this connection, I want to point out that in the four years in which the District has been functioning, practically every major decision has received unanimous approval of the entire Board. I believe that that is some kind of a record when it is taken into account that thirteen cities, large and small, antagonists on many questions, were involved. We are proud of the harmony and understanding which has been developed between Los Angeles and the outlying cities. In this respect alone, the District has already rendered a great service to all Southern California by breaking down to a large degree the mutual suspicion and distrust which previously prevailed. The progress made must be preserved by a policy of fair give and take.

Most of the Directors advocating the force account method, were from the outside cities. They conscientiously believed their interests would be best served by that method. When the second unit of the work came up for starting, the question of how soon the work

would begin was important. During the election it was frankly said that the aqueduct would provide employment for many men. Under the present conditions of unemployment, the Directors did not feel justified in permitting any unnecessary delay. The fact that under the force account method the second unit could be started several months sooner, was an important consideration.

The starting of the second unit by force account, and calling for bids on the large units to follow, was a satisfactory and acceptable compromise to those members who were particularly favorable to the force account method.

The procedure has a distinct advantage, in that it will give direct comparison between the two methods, forcing each to its best effort and giving a constant check on their respective efficiencies. The fact that the District was to a certain extent organized to undertake any subsequent units of the work would also compel contractors to submit fair bids and to refrain from combinations created to fix prices by eliminating competition.

Also, must be borne in mind and clearly understood, is the fact that the carrying on of some of the work by force account gives a greater flexibility with regard to finances. While the Federal Government has agreed to advance the District $40,000,000, to be used in two years, there always exists the possibility of unforeseen difficulties arising which might temporarily hold up the steady flow of funds. In that case, the portion of the work being done by force account could be curtailed without considerable loss. This would not be the case if all the work were being done by contractors who would

have to be compensated for shut-downs.

The Directors of the District feel they must have the present members of the Citizens Committee with them. If the Committee members disagree with any policy of the District, they, of course, have a right to object. We will be glad, in connection with the subject now under discussion, to have you issue a public statement that the Citizens Committee is opposed to the doing of any of the work by force account. That would place you in the clear. However, with regard to matters on which there is agreement, we should stand together and work for the common interest of our communities and Southern California.

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our cities with an adequate water supply. It must be carried on purely on the basis of merit and efficiency. In helping us maintain the project on the high plain on which it has so far been carried, the Citizens Committee will render a service of inestimable value and one in every sense as great as that which the Directors of the District will succeed in accomplishing.

WAT
7

STATEMENT BY W. P. WHITSETT

FEBRUARY 10, 1933

I am delighted to be able to announce that the Metropolitan Water District today ~~to~~ accepted bids for its electric power conductors which contemplate the use of copper. The firms submitting bids for the use of copper were appreciably lower than their competitors. The copper people justified their right to the business of the District on a strictly competitive basis. Looking at the question aside from any consideration predicated on price, or the technical advantages of copper, the Board of Directors of the District and myself in particular, is very happy that this business could be awarded to the copper industry which is a predominating activity of our neighboring states.

There is no question but that Southern California is intimately related to the other Western and Southwestern States in a unified economic structure. Between Southern California and Arizona and the other Western States, there is a constant interchange of products and services. We purchase from them copper, and other minerals, meat, dairy products and so on, and they in turn buy our manufactured products, our fruit, oil, and patronize our recreational facilities.

The benefits and advantages resulting from the purchases by the Metropolitan Water District are not, however, confined to this and the adjacent area. Both directly and indirectly the expenditures of the District for materials will help all parts of the United States. Were it not a requirement of the Reconstruction Finance Corporation that the District buy only American goods, it would nevertheless be the established and announced policy of the

District. The Board of Directors, of course, is primarily interested in the people and concerns of Southern California. Our next interest is to California and its neighbors with whom we are so closely related economically, and then to the balance of these United States of America to whom we hope this project will affort a large measure of assistance in the recovery to normal times.

Speeches WHT 7

63 members 24/20

M_E_M_O_R_A_N_D_U_M
by
W. P. Whitsett

August 1, 1933

The main aqueduct from the Colorado River to the Cajalco Reservoir will be ~~341~~ 239 miles, of which 91 miles will be tunnel 16 feet in diameter. In addition, there will eventually be 236 miles of distributing lines of large sizes.

Among some of the major items of materials entering into the construction will be 41,000,000 pounds of powder, 6,000,000 barrels of cement, 780 carloads of steel, and 35,000,000 board feet of timber.

On a normal program between now and October 1935, the District will expend sixty-three million dollars. If the work is speeded up, as it has been proposed, in order to provide additional employment and expand the consumer's purchasing power in cooperation with the President's program, one hundred thirty-seven million dollars will be spent in the same period. This can be done economically and in accordance with sound principles, providing the District obtains from the Federal Government a 30 percent grant such as is authorized under the terms of the National Industrial Recovery Act. A grant of 30 percent of the expenditures for labor and materials during the period between now and October 1935 will be twentyfour million dollars. It is hoped that this grant, instead of being expended directly on construction, can be set up as a credit to the District against the payment of capital charges on the money which the District

will borrow from the Federal Government. This would mean that the member cities of the District would not have to contribute by taxes or otherwise towards the maintenance of the project until revenues become available from the sale of water. In other words, the burden on the taxpayer as far as the District is concerned will have been practically eliminated.

There are employed on the project at the present time 2400 men, exclusive of those working on Pine Canyon Dam which will be acquired by the District. On the accelerated program referred to, a maximum of 17,400 men will be at work on the project during the years 1934 and 1935.

We firmly believe that no other project in the United States is in such a sound position as is the Colorado River Aqueduct of the Metropolitan Water District. The undertaking was started nine years ago, and was not "cooked up" to take advantage of the opportunity to obtain federal funds. Sound engineering, thoroughly checked up competent engineering boards, was completed before the work was initiated.

The economic basis upon which the project was conceived was the absolute and imperative necessity of obtaining additional watter supply for Southern California as soon as practicable. The condition of the underground basins, the trend of population to this area, the industrial and commercial expansion assured of the future, make certain to any fair-minded individual the necessity of importing water from the Colorado River. It was

not a question of building for the future, but of taking care of the immediate need for more water, as well as making provision for supplies on which a continued development could be predicated.

The wealth of the cities comprising the Metropolitan Water District is ample to warrant the expenditure. When the water becomes available it will be sold in sufficient quantities and at fair prices to meet all capital and operating cost of the undertaking.

The experts of the Federal Government, under the Reconstruction Finance Corporation, which was very conservative in its loans, classified the District as a sound, self-liquidating project.

WHT
7

REMARKS BY W. P. WHITSETT

January 24, 1933

The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California has received in cash, $2,016,000 of the $40,000,000 credit advanced by the Reconstruction Finance Corporation for constructing the Colorado River Aqueduct. Work is now being started both by contract and by force account.

The Metropolitan Engineering Corporation was awarded the contract for construction of the San Jacinto Tunnel and within the past few days are reported to have qualified on their bond. During the current week the contract will probably be signed and they are expected to proceed immediately with the construction of that great tunnel sufficient in size to carry the full 1500 second feet through the San Jacinto Mountains.

The District's permanent headquarters building at Banning is nearing completion. Our General Manager and Chief Engineer, Mr. F. E. Weymouth, is rushing the construction camps at various sites along the base of the Little San Bernardino Mountains. In the near future, he plans to start actual construction on the Coachella Tunnels. Two thousand men are expected to be on the job in April, and four thousand in June.

It has been a hard, long fight to get this great project under way. In these trying times we need the fighting spirit of the early pioneers who carved this empire of the Pacific Southwest out of desert. If we can rejuvenate that fighting spirit, the strength, courage, and determination, to carry on that they displayed, we will conquer the problems before us. In Southern California we not only have all the natural advantages that were enjoyed by the early pioneers, but the many other things that have been added by work and by science that make this the white spot of America. But we need that spirit of fight, and let us not forget that it isn't the size of the dog in the fight, but it is the size of the fight in the dog that wins.

WHT
7

M_E_M_O_R_A_N_D_U_M
by
W. P. Whitsett
January 17, 1933

The future of Southern California, its people and their investments, depends on what the intelligent, constructive leaders do today with regard to the Metropolitan Water District aqueduct. In some respects, the situation is similar to the occasion when Benjamin Franklin said, "We must hang together or we shall surely hang separately." Shortsighted and selfish forces are building up which are threatening in one way or another the successful completion of the aqueduct.

Nearly every one who has conscientiously and competently investigated facts with regard to water supply in Southern California, knows that it is inadequate. We have before us the evidence of continually lowering ground water levels locally and in the Owens Valley. We know of the salt water encroachments. We know of the disasters that have happened in the past because of lack of water. The uncertainty of the rainfall from year to year is known by every one who has lived here a few years or longer. We know that all of our property values are ultimately based on a dependable water supply.

Southern California's growth in the past has been remarkable but will continue. The primary element of that growth is unquestionably climate which will always remain a magnet to people living under the severe seasonal conditions of the North and East.

The health-giving rays of the sun are becoming ever more appreciated. People want their children to be raised in a healthful environment under the tonic of the sun with outdoor play throughout the year. The general superiority of Westerners in athletics is entirely explainable in terms of climate.

The factors that have created growth in the past have not been changed, and are, if anything, more vital.

During the last ten years, a period of restricted foreign immigration, Los Angeles was the only metropolitan city in the United States to double its population. In 50 years, Los Angeles has advanced in size from the 199th city in the United States to the fifth. The State as a whole, has advanced in 50 years from 24th to 6th. In ten years, the population of the State increased two and a quarter million, or a greater increase than any other State ever experienced in a census decade. The three Pacific Coast states in the ten-year period from 1920-1930, recorded a gain of 47% in comparison with the 14% gain for the entire section west of the Mississippi, and 16.1% for the United States as a whole.

The United States in the last ten years, increased its population by 17,000,000 persons, of which California accounted for 13.1%. It must be remembered that this was a period of the declining birth rate and restricted immigration. The factors that brought about those increases have not changed, but are ever becoming more important.

California did not only gain in population. In State and National banking growth between 1920 and 1930, the gain in resources

was 69.7%; the State as a whole in 1930 ranked third in the per capita banking resources with an average of $739.35 per capita.

During the period from 1910 to 1920, foreign commerce through Atlantic ports gained 288%, that through Pacific ports gained 458%. In the following nine years, the Atlantic commerce suffered a loss of 38% and the foreign commerce through Pacific ports increased 24%. In 20 years, the Atlantic commerce gained 139% and Pacific commerce 591%.

President Roosevelt, a far-seeing Statesman, said some 25 years ago, "The Mediterranean era died with the discovery of America. The Atlantic era is now at the height of its development and must soon exhaust the resources at its command. The Pacific era, destined to be the greatest of all, is just at its dawn."

The value of the exports from the Los Angeles Harbor increased from $748,000 in 1915 to $161,000,000 in 1930.

Unquestionably one of the great factors in the future growth of California, and particularly Southern California, will be the aviation industry. In 1930, more than 12% of all the aircraft in the United States at that date, were in California and the State accounted for more than 18% of all the country's licensed pilots. In the same year the State had 164 airports, which was more than any other State, by a big margin. As aviation becomes a more important factor in our national life, the greater commercial and recreational use of the airplane will give California an ever-increasing advantage.

In the ten years from 1919 to 1929, Pacific Coast States accounted for almost 16% of the total reported increase in manu-

factures in the United States; the annual output of some 18,000 manufacturing plants aggregating $4,310,000,000. In 1930, California led all the other states with its retail sales, averaging $573.75 per capita. Los Angeles was 6th among the cities of the United States in per capita retail sales.

In the value of farm products, California ranked second among the States in 1930; in the production of minerals, fourth.

The foregoing statistics are an adequate basis on which we can accurately judge the future. Fundamentals which brought about those gains, have not changed, but will become ever greater provided an adequate water supply is available.

In directing the work of providing such a water supply, the Board of Directors of the District have one primary purpose, which is to do the job in the best way possible; to do it as well, and if possible better, than was done in the building of the Los Angeles aqueduct.

In assuming their responsibility, the Directors need, and believe they have a right to ask, that all of the capable leaders of our communities who have the interest of Southern California at heart, stand behind us in this program. We can not always expect to agree with these leaders on all subjects. There will be points of difference for one reason and another. These should, and in fact must, be dealt with on an understanding basis while the absolute unity in a common objective is maintained.

Among the members of the Los Angeles Citizens Colorado River Aqueduct Committee, a question has been raised as to the method

of doing the work. Over a year ago, the District announced its policy of dividing the aqueduct up into convenient units and calling for bids on each one of them in the proper order, but reserving a decision as to the method to be employed until the bids had been examined and compared with the estimates submitted by our General Manager and Chief Engineer. After many unavoidable delays by reason of lawsuits, the work was started in accordance with that policy. Bids were received for the San Jacinto Tunnel and the contract awarded to the lowest bidder. In awarding that contract, there was a division of opinion among the members of the District's Board. The different viewpoints represented two different schools of thought.

In this connection, I want to point out that in the four years in which the District has been functioning, practically every major decision has received unanimous approval of the entire Board. I believe that that is some kind of a record when it is taken into account that thirteen cities, large and small, antagonists on many questions, were involved. We are proud of the harmony and understanding which has been developed between Los Angeles and the outlying cities. In this respect alone, the District has already rendered a great service to all Southern California by breaking down to a large degree the mutual suspicion and distrust which previously prevailed. The progress made must be preserved by a policy of fair give and take.

Most of the Directors advocating the force account method, were from the outside cities. They conscientiously believed their interests would be best served by that method. When the second unit of the work came up for starting, the question of how soon the work

would begin was important. During the election it was frankly said that the aqueduct would provide employment for many men. Under the present conditions of unemployment, the Directors did not feel justified in permitting any unnecessary delay. The fact that under the force account method the second unit could be started several months sooner, was an important consideration.

The starting of the second unit by force account, and calling for bids on the large units to follow, was a satisfactory and acceptable compromise to those members who were particularly favorable to the force account method.

The procedure has a distinct advantage, in that it will give direct comparison between the two methods, forcing each to its best effort and giving a constant check on their respective efficiencies. The fact that the District was to a certain extent organized to undertake any subsequent units of the work would also compel contractors to submit fair bids and to refrain from combinations created to fix prices by eliminating competition.

Also, must be borne in mind and clearly understood, is the fact that the carrying on of some of the work by force account gives a greater flexibility with regard to finances. While the Federal Government has agreed to advance the District $40,000,000, to be used in two years, there always exists the possibility of unforeseen difficulties arising which might temporarily hold up the steady flow of funds. In that case, the portion of the work being done by force account could be curtailed without considerable loss. This would not be the case if all the work were being done by contractors who would

have to be compensated for shut-downs.

The Directors of the District feel they must have the present members of the Citizens Committee with them. If the Committee members disagree with any policy of the District, they, of course, have a right to object. We will be glad, in connection with the subject now under discussion, to have you issue a public statement that the Citizens Committee is opposed to the doing of any of the work by force account. That would place you in the clear. However, with regard to matters on which there is agreement, we should stand together and work for the common interest of our communities and Southern California.

At the present time, the District is undertaking a complete review and analysis of the entire project with a view to all possible economies and deferments that might be effected. While $220,000,000 were voted in bonds, the Directors of the District do not intend to spend a dime more than is absolutely necessary to furnish this area with a water supply in the quantity which it must have for present security and potentially certain future development. They want the assistance and support of the Citizens Committee in dealing with the problems which this involves.

The Directors of the District are faced with a tremendous problem and responsibility. The solution can not be properly effected or the responsibility dealt with unless the distractions which ordinarily confront a public project, are eliminated. The designing and unscrupulous politicians and racketeers of every kind must be compelled to keep their hands off this non-partisan undertaking to supply

our cities with an adequate water supply. It must be carried on purely on the basis of merit and efficiency. In helping us maintain the project on the high plain on which it has so far been carried, the Citizens Committee will render a service of inestimable value and one in every sense as great as that which the Directors of the District will succeed in accomplishing.

Office

Returned to W.P.D.

MEMORANDUM

REMARKS BY C. P. WHITNEY AT METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT MEETING - LOS ANGELES ADVERTISING CLUB - BILTMORE HOTEL TUESDAY, MAY 15, 1934

The Need for Water

Many contended three years ago that we were at the end of our dry cycle. Now they are beginning to wonder which end, for as they delve deeper into the obscure record of the 100 years preceding the short period we have been keeping authentic hydrographic records of rainfall they discover that trees were growing in the bottom of Lake Elsinore....that Indians had built stone huts on the bottom of Mono Lake which are still under water....that the trail of the 49-ers comes down the mountain side, crosses an arm of Goose Lake, goes up the other side and the wheel tracks are still deeply submerged. By placing other fragmentary records together they come to the conclusion that a drought prevailed from 1761 to 1809 lasting 28 years, and again from 1841 to 1884 lasting 43 years. Interspersed through these protracted droughts were abnormal rainfall years and torrential floods similar to those we have recently had.

This interspersing of wet years and abnormal floods fooled many investigators into trying to divide the cycles into shorter periods, basing their hopes for the future on an average of this more bountiful rainfall period. But why fool ourselves with an average rainfall in desert places?

When water is like the very air we breathe, enough is a God's sufficiency. Yet we would give all we are worth for just one drink if we were dying of thirst. We can go 40 days without food and if we continue long enough die quiet a comfortable death. But if we were without water in a desert place for a very short time our tongue would swell up and turn black, our eyes become bloodshot,

our vision and mind deranged, and the agony that would soon precede death is too excruciating to relate.

Construction

To meet this threat the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California has accepted the challenge of the desert. The Directors representing you are giving unselfishly of their time and ability. No salaries are paid any of the Directors of the District, the Controller or the Treasurer. Frank E. Weymouth, our General Manager and Chief Engineer, is preeminently the best-qualified man in America to build the Colorado Aqueduct and never before has there been assembled such a capable staff of engineers and technicians on a similar project. And never before has there been such synchronization of human energy and modern gigantic tunnel-driving machinery.

It just seems that men, after cutting fortail, manicuring mountains and wheeling sand from place to place are hungry for he-man honest-to-God wealth-creating activity. The superior hospitalization, feeding and housing furnished, stimulate them still further, until it would not surprise some of us if we drove one-half a six-year tunnel-driving program this year.

If the present drought continues and this situation becomes grave enough we feel sure our engineering staff could find a way to get water piped around San Jacinto by using temporary distributing mains and main line pumps, to be used elsewhere two years later when San Jacinto is completed on our regular schedule in 1938.

We have 4,000 men with the most modern tunnel-driving equipment forcing their way through the mountain barriers between here and the Colorado River and are prepared to put 12,000 more men to work almost immediately upon receipt of word that money is available to complete the task.

Consider what it means to this nation at this time to spend money on labor when every dollar will be repaid with interest and 16,000 men employed at wealth-creating activities; when three times that number can be indirectly employed furnishing equipment, materials and supplies; over 50,000 workers supplying purchasing power to a quarter of a million persons, creating new wealth, new activities, new opportunities.

There can be no more threat of drought to those communities that are members of the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, with these opportunities for pushing aqueduct water here from the Colorado River.

Contrast this bright hope with the depths of despair we would be in now if this great project were not now going forward.

Benefits

Down through the years migrations have followed drastic conditions. Want and suffering, the breaking up of business relationships, the uprooting of home ties, tend to exhilarate this natural trend of looking about for greener pastures, and there comes a definite wave of decentralization from the large industrial centers of the East back to the subsistence farms to regain security and independence. On top of this comes the shorter-hour day and shorter-day week.....time accumulated into vacation periods in which to travel about and make comparisons of the most desirable place to locate. Speeded still further by highly-improved national highways, inexpensive light speedy autos, airconditioned stream-lined trains, daylight airplane flights from the Atlantic to the Pacific, and the further discovery that the dollar buys more of the pleasures, luxuries and necessities of life in California than in Europe. We are rediscovering the Panama Canal and if one has the time and needs an ocean voyage one can come to California by water.

I have believed and advocated the subsistence farms as a solution of our economic and political difficulties for over 30 years. I visited the little

War gardens throughout Europe after the War and I want to tell you, as a result of these studies and investigations, there is nowhere else that one can grow such a wide diversification of food products 365 days in the year as right here on a subsistence farm located in our fertile valleys of Southern California with aqueduct water.

And there is nowhere else in all the world to be found those conditions of sun and climate, ocean, valley, mountain, desert and city which make for comfort, contentment and happiness in such close proximity to each other, as right here where we are now assembled.

You members of the Advertising Club, you messengers of good will, you molders of thought and action, can carry this message of hope and cheer to the four corners of the world.

If you do, you will garner here sufficient men of experience, ability and means to occupy every acre of land that the Colorado Aqueduct can supply water to. And these men of experience and means who come here as a result of your message will help to bear our burdens and add their great ability to ours in carving this Empire from the desert, building here under the blue skies of California the finest civilization of this World.

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Mr. Whitsett

2:00 at Pasadena City Hall

3:30 Pine Canyon Dam (Morris Dam)

6:45 Dinner at Vista Del Arroyo Hotel
(Colorado and Grand Avenue)
Meet Mrs. Whitsett in Lobby at 6:15

Note: If you speak into a microphone stand about 18" away and use your natural speaking voice. Don't talk too loudly!

OUTLINE OF REMARKS BY W. P. WHITSETT AT THE
DEDICATION OF THE PINE CANYON DAM - MAY 26

On behalf of the Board of Directors of The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, speaking as its Chairman, I convey to the people of the City of Pasadena, and its officials our congratulations on the completion of this splendid structure which very appropriately and fitingly will from this day on bear the name of Samuel B. Morris Dam. I cannot conceive of a more fitting dedication than that which has been arranged. To be dedicated in the presence of such a prominent gathering and to be launched upon its career as a useful public structure of primary importance by appropriate words from a great engineer and a former President of the United States, the Honorable Herbert Hoover, speaks well for its future.

My remarks must necessarily be brief. However, there are several considerations identified with this occasion which we could very appropriately be reminded of. The first is that the completion of this splendid structure marks an important event in the history of the Colorado River Aqueduct. It is the first permanent and final unit of the Aqueduct to take its final form. The hundreds of miles of roads, telephone lines, construction power lines, and the twenty-five miles of tunnel excavated by the District are either temporary units or are still in the process of construction. Tunnels have been holed through but they have not been lined. This Dam, however, is a completed

unit, ready at this moment to receive Colorado River water if it were only available.

The second point which I want to recall to our memory on this occasion, is the propriety of having the first unit of the Aqueduct completed by the City of Pasadena. It was the City of Pasadena, you will recall, which organized the Metropolitan Water District six years ago, and even prior to that time she took the leadership in the steps leading up to the undertaking upon which more than anything else the future of Southern California depends. So Pasadena has the distinction of having organized the Metropolitan Water District and having completed the first final unit of that undertaking.

There is one further point which I want to mention which is more fundamental and of greater significance than what I have already said. The point I have in mind is the water problem which always confronts people living in a desert environment, and that is a question with which this dam is intimately related. Think what would be the concern, if not despair, of the people of Pasadena at this moment if they did not have the assurance as to water supply which this structure provides. It was undoubtedly the sound ~~recognition~~ and far-sighted judgment of the people and officials of Pasadena and of Mr. Morris who is honored here today, that directed the efforts towards the building of this splendid structure. The dry years which have succeeded one another since this project and the Colorado River Aqueduct were started have

amply evidenced the soundness of their convictions and judgment. We are now faced with one of the severest dry years we have ever had. Pasadena's very security depends upon the water she will receive from this reservoir. Many cities in Southern California and extensive sections of our best citrus and agricultural land are undoubtedly going to be faced with a critical water problem before this year is over.

We of the District are as proud of this structure as you are. We look forward to the day when we shall take over the dam and reservoir for use as an integral part of the Colorado River Aqueduct. Our engineers have followed the plans and construction in the most intimate way and I have never heard any but the highest commendation for the technical skill and workmanship incorporated in this structure.

During the negotiations which lead to the consummation of the working agreement between the District and the City of Pasadena for the use of the Dam we came to know better, many of your City officials and to have the highest regard for them as men and representatives of their City. They drove a hard bargain but it was a clean and fair contest from start to finish and I think everyone on both sides has reason to be pround of the result finally achieved. It has been a rare pleasure and privilege to have the opportunity of making these few observations and comments upon this important occasion as representing the Metropolitan Water District. On behalf of the District I again want to express

its high regard for this fine product of your splendid community. We know it will live and serve Southern California well and in succeeding generations will stand as a fine tribute to the intelligence, enterprise, and sound courage and judgment of the people of Pasadena.

5/26/34

May 12, 1934

Memo to Mr. Whitsett:

This is a copy of the "Thirst" script substantially as it was recorded.

Don J. Kinsey.

MEMORANDUM

REMARKS BY W. P. WHITSETT AT METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT
MEETING - LOS ANGELES ADVERTISING CLUB - BILTMORE HOTEL
TUESDAY, MAY 15, 1934

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Tone down the agony ?.?.

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You members of the Advertising Club, you messengers of good will, you molders of thought and action, can carry this message of hope and cheer to the four corners of the world.

If you do, you will garner here sufficient men of experience, ability and means to occupy every acre of land that the Colorado Aqueduct can supply water to. And these men of experience and means who come here as a result of your message will help to bear our burdens and add their great ability to ours in carving this Empire from the desert, building here under the blue skies of California the finest civilization of this World.

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REMARKS BY W. P. WHITSETT AT VAN NUYS
ON THE OCCASION OF THE ANNIVERSARY OF ITS FOUNDING
FEBRUARY 22, 1934

On the wall of my office hangs an old photograph which is among my treasured possessions. Many of you have seen it. It is a panoramic view taken in 1911 during the founding of Van Nuys. From a photographic standpoint it is not a particularly good picture, but for me it has associations and memories of great value. To a new-comer in Southern California it would only show a lot of some queerly dressed people and a few very unpretentious buildings located on a dusty street corner. Beyond the buildings the eye can discover no development, only an empty plowed field.

Since that picture was taken we have come a long way. The horses and wagons, the mustaches and derby hats and the full and flowing skirts indicate the changes that have taken place in dress in the 23 years that have elapsed. Whether our present fashions can be called improvements or progress is a debatable question. But as to the progress and growth of Van Nuys and the San Fernando Valley there can be no question especially after looking at my photograph of a few buildings on an extensive plain. Now as we look around us we see a city worthy of the name, - a place of pleasant homes nestling in green and shady gardens. Where one person lived in the valley in 1911 there are now hundreds; where then there was a struggling village or two in the midst of a great plain there is now an unbroken land of garden homes stretching to the encircling mountains.

Delightful as it is to reminisce on what has been, it is still more fascinating and significant to look at what is to be. As far as the San Fernando Valley is concerned, there is, in my judgment, no question as to what the future holds. The things that have brought people to us and created the wealth and values of the Valley are now operative and will continue to be so to an increasing extent in the years to come.

If we analyze the forces behind our growth and strip them of the fuzz with which they are usually covered, we find them to be climate and water. The climate affects us in two ways. First, it has created here a place in which it is delightful and comfortable to live; and second, it has directly and indirectly made it possible for people who come here to stay and make a living. Humankind since time began has always sought those places of mild climate which yielded them the most comfortable and enjoyable existence. Between the perpetual snows at both ends of the world and the oppressive heat and dampness of the tropics are found in a relatively few places that combination of mild climate and productive soil which seem to best answer human needs. In most cases they are adjacent to the desert.

I have named climate first as the factor which brings people to Southern California. I think that is probably its proper place. The fact that the Palm Springs resorts, in spite of high prices, are sold out even during depression winters, and the activities of the extremists who today are going in for nudism are

manifestations of its growing importance in human affairs. The direct health-giving rays of the sun are a part of what climate contributes to human happiness. During the past thirty years one can readily observe a growing appreciation of the benefit of the sun's rays and people everywhere are coming to realize that life is not only longer in Southern California but it is richer and happier.

I have said that humankind has always sought such places as Southern California. When the barbarians made their great migrations from central Asia down into the lands bordering the Mediterranean they probably were not primarily interested in climate or a more comfortable place in which to live. The force that drove them out of their established homes to seize by force from their more cultured neighbors their homes and lands was the primitive need for food. When the droughts came and the grass dried up and their herds and crops perished, they had to go elsewhere for food or starve. They came of necessity but invariably stayed. We have learned from the development of science how to overcome the conditions which compel people to migrate in order to satisfy their hunger. Our inventions in transportation make it possible to bring food from wherever it is grown to all parts of the world. Engineering skill enables us to economically bring water hundreds of miles from abundant sources to where it is needed both for human consumption and in the growth of crops. We have become much more independent of one environment than formerly. Therefore

when people look to Southern California as a place to live, they do so with a selective eye comparing its advantages with those elsewhere. Here lies the strength of our climatic appeal.

As to the second important factor which will bring people to Southern California, and particularly to the San Fernando Valley, is the question of water. While the climate will create in the minds of people living in the lands of brutal, bitter winters the desire to live in Southern California, water is the element which makes this possible to other than a favored few. Without an abundance of water existence in this sunny land would still be possible but there could be no economic foundation upon which to build a great community. People must not only live but they must find an opportunity to engage their skill and energies in providing for themselves and their families the necessities and luxuries of life. With an abundance of water a great industry can arise giving employment to many thousands in producing the great diversity of commodities represented in the markets of today.

Industry in turn will make possible commerce and the exchange of goods with the balance of our own nation and with foreign countries which in turn will provide employment for added thousands. With the growth of the population made possible by opportunities for employment there will be provided work for a great multitude engaged in serving others in building homes, streets, and utilities, and in recreational and entertainment activities.

But there is one other factor in the economics of Southern

John Mendenhall

You are working on an Aqueduct which must endure through the ages if Civilization is to continue ~~to flourish~~ Here in California & the South & wherever love to live. We have accepted the Challenge & the Great Mare building the Aqueducts. The Great Falls of Japan have men with energy & ~~vision~~ ~~and~~ determination. The present leaders will pass ~~away~~ the younger men in the ranks should take their places. I hope you may find your life work in the Construction service & bringing water to the Thirsty Lands and Land in the Metropolitan Water District of Calif—

J John Mendenhall

W. Mulholland
Chairman of Board
of Directors

John Mendenhall

John Mendenhall

John Mendenhall

California to be mentioned. That is, of course, the land which is the source of our food supply. Here is a respect in which Southern California especially excels in its ability to attract more people. In addition to our climate, in addition to the opportunities which exist and are growing for employment in industry and commerce, we have some of the best and richest soil to be found, capable of producing an almost unlimited diversity of products through all seasons of the year. The products of the land constitute a backlog to all other forms of economic activity. Los Angeles County is reported to product a greater annual value in agricultural products than any other county in the United States.

This combination of soil and climate has, in my opinion, one very important aspect for the San Fernando Valley. If the current depression has taught us anything it has taught us that industry has gotten too far away from the soil. The great cities of the East which sprang up around a coal supply or a waterfall or a natural harbor created the congesting of workers into tenement districts rendering their lives so specialized that at no point did they come into contact with their actual food supply.

The back-to-the-land movement which I have advocated for many years and which is now receiving so much consideration in Washington and throughout the country is evidence of the new trend. Industry is moving into the country. With the long distance transmission of electricity and existing efficient transportation systems there is no longer the need which formerly existed to

John Mendenhall.

Goot

I am pleased to learn that California
~~is~~ commences ~~to~~ ~~do honor to~~ your graduation
from the Cal Institute of Technology together
with the messages from some of those who had
occasion to note your Earnest Endeavors We hope
~~You continued success~~ hope you will
find us then as desperate for -
continued success

John M. McPherrin the Boys California
in commemoration of yours graduation from
the Cal Institute of Technology together with
the messages from some of those who have
had occasion to note your Earnest
Endeavors ~~We hope you will find us then~~
~~as desperation for continued success~~

MEMORANDUM

REMARKS BY W. P. WHITSETT AT METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT MEETING - LOS ANGELES ADVERTISING CLUB - BILTMORE HOTEL TUESDAY, MAY 15, 1934

Those pictures you just saw, resurrected from our historical files, have dusted off some memories which I have been too busy to think of for a long time. They are not very old in years, but are old in events. Since the days of the Bond Campaign when they were being shown to hundreds of thousands of people throughout the District, much water has passed under the bridge. Probably I should say much sunshine has fallen on the desert, because here in the west it is anovelty for water to flow under bridges.

It is now just about three years since those pictures were taken and shown. Since then the $220,000,000 of bonds were voted by the people of our cities by a majority of almost five to one. Legal red tape and delays of a most annoying and unnecessary sort were cleared out of the way. Final surveys, plans, estimates, and all the tremendous details of the engineering plans involved in a project of this kind and magnitude were finished and checked and rechecked. Materials from our industries, and directly and indirectly from all corners of the Nation began pouring in. Contractors and their men formed a continuous line onto the job. With roads, power lines, telephone lines, and the water system out of the way the aqueduct itself was started. That brings us ~~up~~ to today.

At this moment work is going forward on the entire ninety-one miles of tunnel on the main aqueduct. Four thousand men are working with efficiency and enthusiasm, breaking records every day, and, most important of all, they and their families are eating regularly and are passing honestly earned money expended for sound and wealth-creating purposes into the arteries of our local economic system.

California people are lucky in more ways than one. With the exception of water we have all the advantages of land and climate that go to make life a pleasure. But more than that, we have the kind of luck that fools boast about. We have, it seems to me, more of this fool's kind of luch than we have any right to claim or reason to expect. In running my mind over the experiences gained during thirty years of active interest in one way or another with the water problems of this area, I can cite you several instances that illustrate what I mean. We have played loose and free with the desert and except for occasional lickings, have come through and managed to keep going. That the Owens Valley Aqueduct got here not a moment too soon to take care of the growth since that time is so commonly known that we take it for granted. A delay of a few years might have denied us the growth and wealth we now have and would probably have ruined what then existed.

Speaking of fool's luck in getting water at the last critical moment, let me remind you of the well-known situation

which developed in the case of our sister metropolit at the north. When the aqueduct of the East Bay Municipal Utilities District was completed, that organization announced that only thirty days' supply remained on hand. In spite of the fact that the project was completed far in advance of the time expected, their secretary reported that it saved the East Bay cities from a ruinous water shortage at a time when less than a month's supply was available. And that isn't all. Take the case of San Francisco. For a great many years they have been working on the Hetch Hetchy development to bring a water supply from the Sierras into San Francisco. Engineering and other difficulties had protracted the time of completion. In the fall of 1930 San Francisco was faced with the grim fact of a very serious water shortage. Because of several dry years in succession, the water storage in January 1931 was only sufficient for less than ninety days. The absolute necessity of obtaining an additional supply at once caused them to enter into negotiations with the East Bay Municipal Utilities District whose line had just been completed under the circumstances I mentioned before. Within the space of a few months, all of the negotiations were completed, plans made, and a connection from twelve to thirteen miles made between the two systems. The spring of 1931, you will recall, was very dry, and had not the East Bay Municipal Utilities District completed its program ahead of schedule, and had not San Francisco had the foresight and the ability to construct the connection, that city would have suffered a water

shortage of the gravest kind. If there is not an element of what might be called fool's luch in beating out the demon drought by such a narrow margin, I miss my guess.

To bring the matter close to home, I feel that we are at the present moment in building the Colorado River Aqueduct engaged in the same kind of a race where our fool luck seems to be holding out just about nip and tuck. I am just as confident as when I made the picture you saw earlier in the meeting that we are not going to get Colorado River water one moment too soon.

In closing, let me say that to many of you listening to me in this room today, the Board of Directors of the District and the citizens of the communities composing it owe their appreciation for the loyal and fine support you have given to this undertaking. I want to say that if anybody in this world can finish this job in time and at the lowest possible cost to the taxpayers, it is our General Manager and Chief Engineer, Mr. F. E. Weymouth, and the competent staff he has gathered about him.

Suggested points to be made by Mr. W. P. Whitsett
Advertising Club Luncheon
May 15, 1934.

Three years ago when some of us went before the people of this District and spoke plainly and frankly on the serious water problem of this area, there were certain other persons who chose to dismiss and disregard these facts. In some quarters, I was classified as an alarmist, and there were even a few kindly souls who expressed serious concern as to the condition of my mind.

When we drew their attention to the abnormally low rainfall figures, and when we drew their attention to the fact that the people in this area are drawing out of the ground each day an average of two hundred million gallons of water more than is being replaced by either man or nature---I say, when we drew their attention to these facts, some of our friends dismissed the whole matter by saying that we were at the end of the dry cycle. But, they failed to designate which end.

Now, after three years, we are still experiencing a continuation of these abnormally dry seasons. Our need for an additional water supply is becoming more urgent and more desperate each passing day.

The people of this city and the Metropolitan Water District, taken as a whole, have had the vision and the courage to look facts squarely in the face. They know that the bringing in of Colorado River water is vital to the existence of this community. That is why they authorized the aqueduct bond issue

by the overwhelming majority of 5 to 1. That is why they have told their District organization to proceed, without delay, and without interruption in the construction of this aqueduct.

In giving their command to our District to proceed with the construction of the aqueduct, the people of this region have displayed a brand of civic courage and a brand of confidence in the basic soundness of this area that has been an inspiration and an object lesson to the entire nation. Our District organization, from its highest ranking officer to its most modest worker, has sought diligently to capture and to hold the spirit of our people---and to carry forward this job in a manner that will redound to the honor of themselves and their communities.

The Colorado River Aqueduct project has been examined, scrutinized, analyzed, and disected, not only by the District's staff of engineering consultants, but by the hardest-headed engineers, lawyers, and financial experts which the Federal Government could call to its service. The result of these searching studies has been that the Reconstruction Finance Corporation almost two years ago placed its stamp of approval on this project as a self-liquidating,self-sustained enterprise. The Reconstruction Finance Corporation agreed to purchase District bonds up to $40,000,000---enough to carry forward construction work for the first two years. In a similar manner, the Public Works Administration, with a new alignment of disinterested and cold-blooded engineering and legal advisers, went over the aqueduct project from end to end---and wound up by likewise placing its stamp of approval upon the aqueduct. The Public Works

Administration has advanced $2,000,000 to set under way construction work on the Parker Dam, which is a part of the aqueduct project.

It is essential to the welfare of Southern California that the proper Federal financing agencies continue to stand squarely in support of this aqueduct project. Whether such support is maintained in the future now rests largely with the people of this city and this District. The District, as a governmental agency, invites and urges each and every one of you to join hands with us in presenting a solid and determined front in our negotiations with the Federal Government. Aqueduct construction work is proceeding with dispatch and with economy. We must not---and we shall not permit any obstacle to interrupt or handicap the progress of this great and vitally necessary undertaking.

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5-14-34

Walt Stevens

MEMORANDA - W. P. WHITSETT

November 15, 1934

Situation in Southern California
Preliminary to a Consideration of
the Logical Development of an
Industrial-Semi-rural Sociological
System

A prerequisite to any discussion of the future development of a sub-tropical and semi-desert region such as Southern California, is the question of water supply and its adequacy for all of the various human and economic requirements. The history of Southern California can be told in terms of rainfall ~~climatic~~ variation and waterworks construction. Because of the lack of rainfall and dependable water supplies, the first economic system was established on the stock raising type of economy. Even this was a precarious system and intermittent drought periods brought increasing intervals of practical ruin and impoverishment. A typical one was that surrounding 1862 which almost destroyed the herds of cattle, sheep, and horses.

The situation is brought specifically to mind by a comparison of the rainfall in Southern California with other large centers of population in the United States:

City	Yearly Average Rainfall in inches
New York	44.63
Chicago	33.28
St. Louis	37.20
New Orleans	57.42
Portland	45.13
Jacksonville, Florida	53.25
Los Angeles	15.64

These figures do not tell the whole story inasmuch as all of the places named with the exception of Los Angeles have a fairly uniform distribution of rainfall throughout the year and Los Angeles on the other hand obtains practically all of its rainfall in a three-months period and is faced with the problem of extending its use through nine months of comparatively hot weather. The problem is further complicated by excessive evaporation to the extent of about six feet per year which takes place in any body of water stored in open reservoirs. Added to this is the fact that Southern California because of the steepness of its physiography is greatly lacking in potential safe reservoir sites.

Continuing the historical background of Southern California, a transition in the form of the local economy, which was, of course, primarilly agricultural, took place with the development of irrigation and the tapping of the underground reservoirs which had been accumulating water through countless ages. This development was made possible and extended by reason of the invention and perfection of economical small units of pumping machinery. With the turn of the Twentieth Century the economic form took on a more industrial and commercial aspect accompanied by an increasing rate of population growth, establishment of industries, and the development of the Harbor. This development would have been stopped in its tracks if it had not been for the building of the Los Angeles Aqueduct. The growth of the City of Los Angeles in excess of several hundred thousand population and the corresponding industrial expansion can be fairly said to have been predicated almost entirely upon the building of the Aqueduct.

The initiation and construction of the Colorado River Aqueduct marks the next step in the continuation of the foregoing sequence of expansion and growth.

As an item in a study of the future development of Southern California as an industrial semi-rural community, it is pertinent and significant to point out the factors which will make certain the continued growth of Southern California. First, of course, is the climatic advantages of this area. It is almost trite to say that people naturally avoid bitter, cold, damp, and general uncongenial climates in favor of one that is warm, temperate, and permits an enjoyable outdoor type of life throughout the year. The tendency everywhere is in the general direction of more universal athletic participation by persons of all ages and social strata. Nudism, college athletics, and golf are all manifestations of this tendency. As an index of the attracting power of Southern California to population, the following figures are cited on the basis of population changes which took place in the decade 1920-1930. The figures represent comparative attracting powers: New York - 1; Chicago metropolitan area - 1.04; State of Michigan - 1.45; State of Florida - 2.27; Southern California 6.0.

It is essential to point out that these figures are based on a period in which foreign immigration was restricted to a very low figure. Regardless of whether population increase has fallen greatly as has been the case since the War or whether the national population is approaching a static level as has been indicated by

some sociologists, the attracting power remains practically constant and national internal migration takes place to favored areas ~~at the expense~~ from other parts of the nation. The primary limiting factors are the accumulation by individuals of sufficient wealth to move or the attracting powers for labor and business opportunities for those without means to make an arbitrary change. Disruption of the social and economic systems of practically all communities during the current depression will facilitate a movement of population as soon as a degree of stability is attained.

Aside from the consideration of climate and its correlaries, the fact remains that industries are more and more attracted and dependent upon large concentration of consumers and simultaneously people are attracted to areas of industrial expansion by the opportunites afforded for employment. These forces proceed simultaneously and are mutually sustaining. Abundant evidence exists to show the large growth of industries in Southern California during the past thirty years.

Because of the large volume of power which Southern California has and is acquiring and the local oil and gas resources, the character and growth of the Los Angeles harbor, industrial development will not only accelerate but will probably undergo a change in the direction of a larger proportion of basic industries to those primarilly of the manufacturing type.

Another factor in the consideration of the industrial semi-rural type of community in Southern California which deserves consideration is the present situation with regard to water supply.

In the rainfall figures quoted above, we have dealt with the normal, or average. These figures are, of course, entirely misleading and unreliable unless there is taken into account the fluctuation from the average and the duration of such fluctuations. A mean average rainfall of 15 inches a year is entirely different from one in which the average may be 15 inches but in which for periods of a number of successive years the average rainfall may fall to a fraction of that amount. Abundant evidence exists to show that far more serious periods of subnormal rainfall have existed in the past than even those of which we have positive records. Even on the basis of existing records we know that Southern California has not endured what may be characterized as a major drought since its population was 160,000.

As a comparative index of historic drought conditions may be had from a study of lake water levels in the West. For instance, in 1875 sagebrush and grease wood were discovered submerged in five fee of water in Mono Lake and large tree stumps found two hundred feet or more from the shore. The report has also been made that Stone Indian dwellings have been found beneath the waters of Mono Lake. In 1810 Lake Elsinore was practically dry and was 22 feet lower than the present level measured in what is locally regarded as a long dry period. This also does not account for the fact that waters which frequently found their way into the lake are now diverted for irrigation uses. Similar data are available for Goose Lake, Great Salt Lake, and Walkers Lake. These indicate quite conclusively that community developments

predicated upon average rainfall are grossly unreliable.

The situation in the underground water levels of Southern California is generally well known. The 315 square miles of artesian area in which water from wells spouted into the air fifty feet or more under pressure, extending from Torrance to Newport has now practically disappeared. Two hundred and twenty square miles of the coastal area formerly enjoying a good underground water supply are now classified as in a critical condition. The area in which salt water intrusion has taken place to a noticeable degree has been reported as 192 square miles. The water levels in some wells are now standing as much as 51 feet below sea level and a great many are ten feet below sea level.

The public is very likely to under estimate the seriousness of even a very temporary failure in the water supplies of large concentrations of population. Two striking illustrations of narrowly averted catastrophe in large cities of the United States are recorded within the last few years. One in New York in 1930, and the other in San Francisco during the same year. The Chief Engineer of the Board of Water Supply of New York City reported in 1931 as follows: "The storage on our own New York Catskill System, designed on a most liberal basis, was drawn down to the vanishing point. This condition came suddenly and without warning. In order to meet it, every possible precaution was taken. The streets went unwashed, all hose permits were cancelled, pressures were reduced,

and the conscience of the people was appealed to in an unprecedented manner through every conceivable means of publicity. Fortunately, just as it seemed that practically ½ of the city's total water would be entirely cut off, the rains came and the situation was relieved. Words are inadequate to express how anxious the people were."

In 1931 the Hydrographic Engineer of the San Francisco Water Department reported: "The seriousness of the situation was brought about by the fact that, as a result of several years of deficient rainfall, the reservoir storage on January 1, 1931, would be drawn down to about five billion gallons, or about ninety days' supply, unless early and abnormally heavy rainfall replenished this storage. - - - The East Bay Municipal Utility District supplying water to Oakland, Berkeley, Alameda and other communities on the east side of San Francisco Bay, by virtue of its recently completed Mokelumne River system, was in a position to supply water to San Francisco."

After reporting the construction of a connection between the East Bay Municipal Utility District and San Francisco in an unprecedentedly short time, he was able to report: "As this is being written continued absence of substantial rainfall has indicated the necessity of providing for more than twenty million gallons daily as provided for in the first units." By this narrow margin was a disaster averted in San Francisco. We also have in recent years the situation at Omaha which resulted from a failure of that city's water supply.

The Trend of Industrial Development

Readers of economic reports will find abundant evidence of the fact that a reversal has taken place in the trend of the last fifty years and industrial organizations are being broken up into smaller units. From an administrative point of view billion dollar industries have in some cases been found to be impractical of efficient management and direction. Recently there appeared in "Business Week" an article expressing the concern of large industries at the increasing growth of small competitive units locally financed and primarilly designed for the local market. Because of the comparatively small size of these organizations and the closeness of the administration to the details of the various processes, their efficiency and consequent profitable selling prices have become an increasing menace to the heretofore predominance of the larger organizations. Thefactors which have made decentralization of industry possible are quite obviously the universal distribution of power and transportation facilities by roads, railroads, water, and even by air. These factors reversed the trend of establishing large industries close to sources of power and have made them more independent of location immediately adjacent to sources of raw materials. More importance is being placed upon proximity to the consumer, satisfactory competent sources of labor supply, and in areas of ~~lower land values~~ productive garden lands.

With the rapid extension during the past few years of technological and cyclical unemployment there has arisen a

universal demand for old age pensions, shorter hours with proportionately higher rates of pay, and for unemployment insurance. To avoid the great costs which these elements will inevitably impose on employers industry is naturally turning to an employment market in which workers can be engaged on a part time basis. When the seasonal and cyclical demands on industry are high workers will be called in and released as the demand for its products diminishes. Where the employees have no other opportunities to sustain themselves, unemployment insurance or some other form of social compensation will be necessary.

In many areas, particularly Southern California, a natural and practical way of dealing with the situation is to locate industry at a place and under conditions where the workers living close to the plant can sustain themselves during periods of unemployment. Especially is Southern California adapted to this type of development. Crops can be grown throughout the four seasons, a small area of land under efficient cultivation can adequately supply a family with practically all of its food requirements. When the worker is engaged in the plant the minimum of time necessary to supply his family needs is put in on his home plot of ground. When unemployed he devotes more time to cultivation of his garden, increasing the variety of products, canning, and preserving his excess. The wages while engaged in industry supply him the means of meeting his taxes, purchasing articles of clothing and luxuries which he can not produce himself. His own labors while employed in industry supply him

with a living of a quality and character which he would not be able to purchase if he were employed full time in industry.

Land Available in Southern California which with an Adecuate Water Supply Will Make Possible an Industrial-Semi-rural Development

There are within the limits of the potential Metropolitan Water District as determined by geographical limitations 2,364,000 acres of land of which a little over one million is mountainous and unuseable as far as the ordinary possibilities of agriculture are concerned. Of the remaining total consisting of valleys and foothill lands comprising 1,362,000 acres, 686,800 acres, or about one-half of the total, are now using water. Of this amount 189,000 is of a generally domestic type of use and includes some 28,000 acres of small farms. In addition there are about 23,000 acres devoted to industrial uses and 454,000 represent agricultural lands now under irrigation.

A large part of this 454,000 acres will in the development of Southern California be converted to small semi-rural units tributary to industries interspersed throughout the area. For instance, there are now about 87,000 acres devoted to alfalfa and 21,000 to beans, and slightly over 104,000 acres in truck gardens. Practically all of this land would undoubtedly be suitable for small home units.

In addition to the lands now being occupied by homes, industries, and irrigated agriculture, there 695,000 acres not using water of which about 38,000 is classified as waste land. The balance of the lands not using water, consisting of about

657,000 acres, represents 86,000 acres of crops not at present irrigated and 571,000 acres of vacant lands. Without question a large part of all of this acreage would be available for the sustaining home acres type of development. Without additional water these lands must remain devoted to their present restricted and uncertain use. Of that under irrigation an unknown but probably large part is marginal as to its water supply.

One of the objectives achieved with the advent of Colorado River water will be the protection of the lands under irrigation. In addition it will mean the possibility of developing into home units at least a half million acres of land now idle or devoted to very low use. The amount of water being imported from the Colorado River is roughly as much again twice the amount of water now in use in Southern California.

The details of just how this development is to take place and the Colorado River aqueduct project operated in the most practical and sound manner in the interests of Southern California are problems that are being or will be worked out. The cost of water is, of course, an important consideration. However, because of the many variables and at present unknown factors involved, any schedules or rates that could be worked out would undoubtedly be of little practical value. For instance, one factor is the tremendous increase in values which will result from Southern California having an assured water supply through wet years and dry cycles to sustain established values and developments and the growth which can take place on the basis of the new supply.

Should have news paper add with this also.

33
10.00
116.00

180 Mo 15 yr
airbrake for 2500=
Paid Sales 1740
Out 760
2500= cash and 15 yrs and 30 yrs 4838=

When explaining it is a good idea to take pencil and paper setting the figures down for then the prospect not only hears the story but sees the figures worked out which is doubly impressive.

I realize this is only a rough sketch, and in case you are interested or wish further explanations, I will be glad to give them. Kindly keep this letter strictly confidential.

WHT
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November 13,1935.

A PLACE IN THE SUN FOR ALL.

By

W.P.WHITSETT, Chairman Metropolitan District of Southern California.--

" You California people don't realize what this winter sunshine means. Look at these weather reports,-'Middle West im grip of blizzard,- New England thawing out after two weeks sub-zero temperature,- New York traffic showed down while thousands of extra men shovel snow from the streets.' "

Mr. Blank, a prominent official from Washington, with whom I had just completed an inspection trip along the Colorado River Aqueduct, dropped his newspaper on the lawn at his feet, stretched himself out comfortably in his easy chair and surveyed the scene about. It was the middle of January and we were enjoying an afternoon of relaxation in the sunny gardens of the Desert Inn at Palm Springs.

Close by, a group of boys and girls in their gay sports togs were discussing the tennis tournament just ended, and over yonder two elderly men were returning from their daily round of golf. Ladies, in summer attire sat about chatting, knitting, reading or lost in day dreams while music in the distance reminded us it was the hour of the tea dance on the open terrace.

But none of this could keep our gaze from wandering beyond this lovely oasis to comtemplate the vastness of the Desert that stretched before us from snow-capped San Jacinto to the Coachilla mountains on the opposite side of the great valley. The ever-changing colors that seem to veil the sands, here in warm gold and rust and there in rich purples shaded to deep blues, make of the desert a mystic pageant that never presents the same picture twice. A few drifting clouds in the west promised a sunset of such vivid hues as can only be seen where sky, mountain and valley are blended with the shifting Sands of Time.

" How fortunate are those who can come to a resort like this while three fourths of the country shivers amid ice and snow or breathes the air of artificially heated rooms," continued Mr. Blank.

It was under the inspiration of these surroundings and the enthusiasm of this new-comer to the Golden state that I visualized the future which must surely be realized for that strip of desert which stretches along the Colorado River Aqueduct. A limited amount of water to supply the needs of daily living is the idfference between an oasis and the trackless desert that surrounds it. No land is so rich, nor yields such bountiful returns from money as labor invested as the desert, as may be witnessed wherever adequate water is made available thereon. We know it will never be necessary to cultivate the countless acres of desert lands. This greatest Aqueduct in the world is being builded primarily to meet the demands of the rapidly growing cities of the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, who are builders

But there is a by-product of the aqueduct construction the vision of which only a few have caught. And that is the creation of a winter resort for those many thousands who want and need the warm, dry winter sunshine of the desert, yet cannot afford the resorts designed for their more favored brothers. Think of the men and women of mature years who have a small income and would escape the rigors of a northern clime; think of the young parents whose delicate child demands winter sunshine to give it the proper start in life; consider the man of any age who has temporarily broken under the strain of office routine, yet cannot even think of the expensive sanitarium. The same sunshine, exhilerating atmosphhere, and generally healthful environment which has made Palm Springs one of the world's most popular resorts will be made available to all with the opening of the aqueduct in 1938.

You ask how? Listen.

From Coachilla to Parker Dam, two hundred and forty-one miles of paved highway has been built following the line of conduits, open ditches and tunnels that will carry the waters of Boulder Dam to the Coastal plains. Electric wires furnish light and power and telephone lines connect every mile traversed by this road with Los Angeles. What will prevent the one million people now living in auto trailers from making their winter quarters along this route once they know they can secure there the comforts of the modern auto camp along with the same climate that has made desert resorts the Mecca for wealthy tourists? And what will be more ideal than the bonnies of modern cabins with garage attached where those who prefer to travel lightly at moderate cost can find comfortable accommodations in this kingdom of the sun?

The American people are becoming daily more migratory. For years we have been literally "a nation on wheels "as faster and better automobiles have come within the reach of every family purse. To-day, partly as a result of the depression's general breaking up of old ties, and partly as a development of the wanderlust born of this motor age, thousands are taking the " Gypsy Trail" . They are obeying the call of Nature, whose children they are, and seeking with each season the most favorable climate where they also be near a source of food supply.

This is merely history repeating itself. For through the endless cycles of time, man has often become enmeshed in the complicated structure of civilizations until, in rebellion against its artificialities he turns back to Nature, seeking once more the intimate contact he craves with the necessities of food, water, air and sunshine.

Man is essentially an animal. But he is a superior animal. He alone has canned, and pickled and cured his foods and transported them

thousands of miles from the place of origin. He alone has built his skyscrapers shutting out natural light and ventilation and supplying artificial light and air conditioned to suit his comfort. He glories in in conquest of Nature, yet he inevitable reverts to the simplicity in which his forebears were cradled. And, if he is wise, he takes to his simple retreat the best of the things a superior civilization has given him.

Americans are both wise and ingenious. So today, we see many of them turning nomads; condensing into an auto trailer all the conveniences of a small up-todate American home and taking to the road in search of the most congenial climate he can find near the seasonal food supply. Manufacturers say they cannot keep up with the demand for these aptly called " Land-Yachts", and each year witnesses more ingenuity in their construction until the housewife of the road often declares she would never again be " tied down" to keeping a big home.

To this rapidly increasing clan of nomadic people, this desert region of Southern California holds every lure. The winter gardens of America are locater in the Imperial and Coachilla Valleys only a few miles to the south.

Picture is you will colonies of these auto travellers located at intervals along the aqueduct, enlarging the engineers camps which would form the nuclei for the first of these migratory settlements. The gaily painted land-yachts are flanked by awnings of contrasting hues to cover the dining table that have been set up in the open. Children pàay about on the sands; men and women lie about in the sun from which they are getting a healthy tan, and the housewife goes out to meet the truch that comes each morning ladened with fresh fruits, vegeatables, milk and poultry products that were taken just a few hours before from the gardens of the fertile valleys of Southern California.

Only a few possibilities of the ideal auto-camp have yet been realized. Many have orderly arrangement for parking of trailers with convenient placed for them to " plug in" on light and water at a small weekly charge . The variety of accommodations to be found in the many " cabins " located along the highways ranges from the crudest imaginable to apartments that compare favorably with a first class hotel. The most popular are those that supply, clean comfortable beds, shower bath and cooking facilities a very moderate prices. I magine driving up to a clean, simple, freshly painted " cabin," and by inserting two fifty cent pieces in an automatic lock, opening the doo r. Inside is a really good bed, for which you would either furnish your own linen, or secure it by inserting another fifty cents into a wall cabinet. An electic meter is made to supply light and heat for cooking by the insertion of a quarter, and a dime meter turns on the water. Thus for less than two dollars, a comfortable travel home is equipped for your use. Weekly and monthly rates are made for those who wish to stay for long periods, and with a minimum amount of personal service, a modern camp can be made to pay its woners well on their investment, while the public enjoys the most economical form of living.

The development of such camps along the Colorado River Aqueduct will not only open to Americans of moderate means this ideal winter resort; but its will mean increased wealth for the thousands of samll farms that are increasing annually by the thousands over the fertile Valleys of Southern California. The colonies thus established on the desert will send people into the cities to shop, attend theatres and patronize the restaurants. The cars, being detached from the trailors till carry half the family to the city for a day of pleasure while the

other half remains " at home" to enjoy the out-of-doors for which they came.

The closer man keeps to Nature, the richer is his life. This fact is known to all who read and study the progress of man. Such famous health experts as Doctor Kellogg tells us that Sunshine is the cure for most of the bodily ills that afflict men to-day. Certainly, the increasing popularity of out-door living in the reason for the extraordinary growth of all Southern California. Surely, these desert camps located along the Aqueduct will be but another added attraction for the Nature lover.

Thus will be made possible " a place in the sun" for all who seek health an recreation.

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With the coming of Colorado River water, Southern California will enter upon a new phase of growth and expansion. There are some who will argue that we have come to a turn in the road leading to a less promising future, of stagnation or at best of growth of only insignificant proportions. They proceed to build up elaborate arguments on this premise.

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If we are to think of the future of Southern California in terms of the last few years, it is obvious that the true picture must be adversely distorted. However, those who have confidence in American institutions and the diversity and ingenuity which have made us the greatest Nation in the world must have an altogether different outlook. The depression years must be looked upon as a period of readjustment and consolidation resulting in the creation of a new basic and more sound level from which to advance. When the readjustments have been completed, and there is considerable evidence that they are being, the pent up energy of the American people will burst into activity with explosive force. Out of the realities which the depression has forced upon us will come

a new conception as to a standard of living. The period of growth and expansion terminated with the settling up of the national domain will take a new course in the form of improvements in housing, in the production of more and more necessities, semi-necessities, and luxuries at continuing lower prices, and an expansion of purchasing power geared to the new standard of living.

These influences will undoubtedly mean more to Southern California than to any other part of the Nation. With increased mobility and with refinements of living, people will inevitably choose the advantages which we have to offer in terms of climate and the pleasures, comforts and conveniences which humankind has always sought.

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I have already indicated the historical conditions which compel Southern California to protect itself to the utmost in assuring its water supply, and the reasonable prospects of increased future demands on our water supply which must be met. There is still a further consideration, and that is the immediate water situation in Southern California. Engineers have demonstrated that our present consumptive use exceeds our average water supply, including present importations. They have shown that this has been the case for a number of years, and that our underground water reserves, which constitute

our primary supply, are constantly dimishing. The general situation fluctuates a little from year to year with the rainfall, but the long trend is towards complete exhaustion of our underground supply. Conditions also vary as between areas, some being at the moment reasonably well-assured as to their water supplies, and others being in a precarious and uncertain condition. On the basis of established fact, it would not be unreasonable to argue that the expenditure for the Colorado River Aqueduct is justified even though none of its water is put to use for five or ten years. Two succeeding dry years such as we have experienced in the past could very easily do more damage to Southern California than is represented by the cost of this project. The loss of one year's agricultural produce, the destruction of an appreciable area of citrus development, the loss of industries by diversion to other areas more favorably situated with regard to water supply, besides the damage to our credit and the loss of confidence of the balance of the Nation in our security, could easily total a stupendous figure.

Aside from that, no civilized community can afford to gamble with human happiness and the stability of accummulated wealth representing the labors of millions of people for many years. So, I say, it would be reasonable to contend that purely from the standpoint of securing our present growth, development, the homes of our people, and our

prospects of continued expansion, the construction of this Aqueduct could be amply justified.

But those are matters of moral and philosophical discussion, and are not cold-blooded, unsympathetic considerations of economics. The Metropolitan Water District was started by eleven of the largest communities in Southern California which, in fact, were the underwriters of the project. Since its inception the project has been decreased by two cities and increased by four. The cities undertaking the project have not been in every case those most severely pressed for an adequate water supply. But they have taken the broader point of view that no city is complete in itself, nor can stand by itself, but is an integral part of the larger economic area of which it is a part.

Early in the project the representatives of the cities in the District defined the larger economic area for which the Aqueduct is designed. Roughly, this area comprises a territory lying between the mountains and the Pacific Ocean from the Ventura County line to the Southern Orange County line, extending eastward as far as the summit of the San Gorgonio Pass. This is the Coastal Plain of Southern California, every part of which is laced together by a multitude of mutually advantageous business activities. The part of the area not now included within the District must eventually and inevitably be a part of the District or go backwards. Whether they join this

year or next year is of minor consequence. The fact remains that as certainly as day follows night the time will come when lack of rainfall and the encroaching desert will compel them to come to the Aqueduct for water. Anyone who would deny such a prediction is ignorant of the records of the past.

Within the area I have outlined, there are over a half a million acres of excellent land suitable for any kind of development, from agricultural and suburban home uses to highly intensified industrial concentration, not at present having a water supply. This area is approximately equal to that now under development, With the consolidation of the area outlined within the Metropolitan Water District, including these lands just mentioned, the territory will exhaust the demand which may safely be placed upon the Aqueduct.

Of course, until the area is completely developed, there will be a large margin of reserve, but any sound water development must always be from twenty to thirty years in advance of complete utilization. With this area consolidated as tributary to the Aqueduct, the project could be administered in the soundest manner for the utilization of both existing local supplies and the imported water.

The coastal plain area described represents what may be called the primary unit for which the aqueduct is designed. I do not intend in any sense to convey the meaning that the

project must necessarily be limited to this area. The final decision rests with the cities and the people comprised within the boundaries designated. Beyond this primary area on the coastal plain is a larger area which may be designated as the secondary economic unit. This comprises the coastal region from Santa Barbara to San Diego, exclusive of the coastal plain, all of which is equally and probably much more greatlyconcerned with questions of water supply. Between Santa Barbara and Ventura on the north, and Orange County and San Diego City on the south, are two areas whose fertility and economic and social possibilities are not to be exceeded anywhere. If this entire secondary area were to become immediately tributary to the Aqueduct, there is no question but that its capacity would be inadequate for its ultimate development.

To what extent the Board of Directors of the Metropolitan Water District would encourage the growth of this larger area at the probable expense of the compact primary unit, is a matter for the future to decide. In a real sense it goes beyond the responsibility of the Board of Directors and is the concern of business leaders of Southern California such as are represented in this meeting. Even though the use of Aqueduct water were conserved for the primary unit, it is conceivable that in periods of extreme drought such as will inevitably occur, it will be necessary for the Aqueduct in an emergency to temporarily assist and protect the areas to the north and

south.

From the financial aspect the most important and difficult period of the aqueduct's operation will be the five or ten years immediately following its completion. At that time the sale of water will be at the minimum. On the other hand, the annual cost of the project will begin to increase. The amortization of the bonds will begin fifteen years from the date of their issue. Until amortization begins, the annual cost will consist of interest and operation and maintenance expenses, including the cost of power contracted for with the Federal Government from the Boulder Canyon Project.

The sale of water by the District as now planned will be strictly on a wholesale basis to its members. This leaves the responsibility as to how the costs are to be met with the individual members, whether they be cities or large districts incorporated for membership. Consider for a moment the extreme possibilities which the individual members may choose in meeting their share of the cost. We may arbitrarily assume that,first, all of the expense is met by taxation, and second, from water revenues. Either of these two alternatives would undoubtedly represent an unfair distribution. To place the entire cost on taxes would be to penalize those owning vacant or highly improved property, or who are small consumers of water. To place the entire cost on water rates would be to penalize the large users of water and favor those owning vacant

property whose values are increased by the surrounding growth and development which the water will make possible.

This problem is not the primary concern of the District, but of the civic and industrial leaders of the communities such as you gathered here. It is your problem and you should be prepared to help solve it at the proper time.

Let us consider one more phase of this question of the cost of water. Approximately at the same time the Aqueduct is completed, Southern California will receive from Boulder Dam through the municipal power systems and the large public utilities, the power from Boulder Dam. With the advent of this power and together with the Colorado River water, there will be presented to industry inducements to locate in Southern California such as have never existed before. The large volume of power at comparatively low rates will attract to Southern California large basic industries, such as electrolitic refining plants, which are also users of tremendous quantities of water. To induce these industries to come to Southern California water must be available to them at prices which they can regard as attractive. It is entirely consistent with good business principles to make water available to large consumers at rates lower in proportion to consumption. Fortunately we have a condition in Southern California which makes such a situation especially favorable. In spite of the fact that we are located in a desert environment, with adequate sources of

water hundreds of miles distant, Southern California has at present very low water rates whem compared with practically all of the large industrial centers of the Nation, although these centers are located in most instances close to abundant water supplies and have climates furnishing them with rainfall throughout the calendar year.

If one-third the capacity of the Aqueduct can be sold at rates comparable with 180 of the largest cities in the United States, practically the entire annual cost, including amortization, can be met in the year of maximum annual expense. This is an exceedingly important situation of profound significance. It means that with approximately one-third of the Aqueduct put to use the remaining two-thirds of its capacity is available at the operating and maintenance cost of transmitting the additional water.

As an offset to selling one-third of the Aqueduct capacity at the average price being charged in the major cities throughout the United States, there could very reasonably be made a readjustment of rates as among the various classes of users in the cities, each paying in proportion to its ability and interest. By advancing the present domestic water rates for all local water supplies to the average of the 180 cities as mentioned, the additional revenue so obtained would make possible a material reduction in the price at which it would be necessary to sell the first one-third capacity of the

Aqueduct in order to meet the District's maximum annual cost.

To quote figures for a specific comparison, the average rate at which water is being sold at present in the member cities of the District is approximately 12¢ per hundred cubic feet, or 750 gallons. The average rate in the 180 major cities of the United States is 18¢ per hundred cubuc feet. This compares with the present rate in San Diego of 22¢ a hundred cubic feet, and in San Francisco of 28¢ per hundred cubic feet.

The question has been raised as to the circumstances under which the large existing potential demand for agricultural purposes could be met from the Aqueduct. This is a problem for which no final solution can be given at present, but one upon which careful and extensive studies are being made by a special committee of the District's Board of Directors and the staff.

Outside the District organization committees representing large and highly valuable citrus and municipal areas are also working on the problem from their local angle. At a meeting here in Riverside a few weeks ago, at a forum discussion, a suggestion was made from the floor which in my opinion had special merit. A gentleman proposed that water at present being diverted from local sources for domestic and industrial purposes be released to agriculture, and a supply substituted from the Aqueduct. This would turn over to agriculture within the District's limits water which is not now available to it, and which would probably meet a large percentage of existing

deficiencies. Such a procedure would, in effect, represent a subsidizing of agriculture. From a strictly economic point of view this would be, in my opinion, an advantageous thing to do. By decreasing to the minimum water costs for agriculture, the cities would be building up the wealth, value, and annual profits of their back country and incidentally their own. From the standpoint of the city, anything along this line would be highly advantageous and would probably result in benefits equal to those accruing directly to farmers and growers.

In this same connection, and in closing, I will give you a hypothetical picture of our whole problem of water supply in Southern California as it might be viewed in its broadest and most fundamental economic aspect. Let us assume for a moment that one agency owned all the land of Southern California and also owned all of the water supply. How would that agency proceed to utilize the land and the water to the greatest ultimate good of the area? There are two factors to be considered. One is the price at which the water was sold, and the other is the wealth which would result from the use of the water. If the water costs were made high, the value of the land would decrease and the amount of wealth created would be less in proportion. On the other hand, if the water costs were made low, the utilization of the land would be increased, its production would increase, and the accummulated wealth expand

likewise in proportion. The maximum annual return from the land and the maximum wealth created would probably be highest as the cost of the water to the user approached zero.

The wealth that has been created in the San Fernando Valley is a practical example of what I mean. The diversion of one hundred second feet of water into that valley has made possible the development of more than enough wealth to build the Colorado River Aqueduct.

The distribution of the Colorado River water at a reasonably low cost can logically and practically be made to produce sufficient taxing wealth to carry the annual costs of the project without increasing the average tax burden.

I have tried, Gentlemen, as I said in the beginning, to give you a picture of some of the economic relationships between the Aqueduct and the future of Southern California in its broadest and most fundamental aspects. The question of who shall participate in the benefits of Aqueduct water, and the manner of distributing the cost, are largely your problems. As business leaders it is to your communities' interest that you apply your sound experience and judgment to the solution of these problems in the most constructive manner for all concerned.

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Early in the project the representatives of the cities in the District defined the larger economic area for which the Aqueduct is designed. Roughly, this area comprises a territory lying between the mountains and the Pacific Ocean from the Ventura County line to the Southern Orange County line, extending eastward as far as the summit of the San Gorgonio Pass. This is the Coastal Plain of Southern California, every part of which is laced together by a multitude of mutually advantageous business activities. The part of the area not now included within the District must eventually and inevitably be a part of the District or go backwards. Whether they join this

year or next year is of minor consequence. The fact remains that as certainly as day follows night the time will come when lack of rainfall and the encroaching desert will compel them to come to the Aqueduct for water. Anyone who would deny such a prediction is ignorant of the records of the past.

Within the area I have outlined, there are over a half a million acres of excellent land suitable for any kind of development, from agricultural and suburban home uses to highly intensified industrial concentration, not at present having a water supply. This area is approximately equal to that now under development. With the consolidation of the area outlined within the Metropolitan Water District, including these lands just mentioned, the territory will exhaust the demand which may safely be placed upon the Aqueduct.

Of course, until the area is completely developed, there will be a large margin of reserve, but any sound water development must always be from twenty to thirty years in advance of complete utilization. With this area consolidated as tributary to the Aqueduct, the project could be administered in the soundest manner for the utilization of both existing local supplies and the imported water.

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project must necessarily be limited to this area. The final decision rests with the cities and the people comprised within the boundaries designated. Beyond this primary area on the coastal plain is a larger area which may be designated as the secondary economic unit. This comprises the coastal region from Santa Barbara to San Diego, exclusive of the coastal plain, all of which is equally and probably much more greatlyconcerned with questions of water supply. Between Santa Barbara and Ventura on the north, and Orange County and San Diego City on the south, are two areas whose fertility and economic and social possibilities are not to be exceeded anywhere. If this entire secondary area were to become immediately tributary to the Aqueduct, there is no question but that its capacity would be inadequate for its ultimate development.

To what extent the Board of Directors of the Metropolitan Water District would encourage the growth of this larger area at the probable expense of the compact primary unit, is a matter for the future to decide. In a real sense it goes beyond the responsibility of the Board of Directors and is the concern of business leaders of Southern California such as are represented in this meeting. Even though the use of Aqueduct water were conserved for the primary unit, it is conceivable that in periods of extreme drought such as will inevitably occur, it will be necessary for the Aqueduct in an emergency to temporarily assist and protect the areas to the north and

south.

From the financial aspect the most important and difficult period of the aqueduct's operation will be the five or ten years immediately following its completion. At that time the sale of water will be at the minimum. On the other hand, the annual cost of the project will begin to increase. The amortization of the bonds will begin fifteen years from the date of their issue. Until amortization begins, the annual cost will consist of interest and operation and maintenance expenses, including the cost of power contracted for with the Federal Government from the Boulder Canyon Project.

The sale of water by the District as now planned will be strictly on a wholesale basis to its members. This leaves the responsibility as to how the costs are to be met with the individual members, whether they be cities or large districts incorporated for membership. Consider for a moment the extreme possibilities which the individual members may choose in meeting their share of the cost. We may arbitrarily assume that,first, all of the expense is met by taxation, and second, from water revenues. Either of these two alternatives would undoubtedly represent an unfair distribution. To place the entire cost on taxes would be to penalize those owning vacant or highly improved property, or who are small consumers of water. To place the entire cost on water rates would be to penalize the large users of water and favor those owning vacant

property whose values are increased by the surrounding growth and development which the water will make possible.

This problem is not the primary concern of the District, but of the civic and industrial leaders of the communities such as you gathered here. It is your problem and you should be prepared to help solve it at the proper time.

Let us consider one more phase of this question of the cost of water. Approximately at the same time the Aqueduct is completed, Southern California will receive from Boulder Dam through the municipal power systems and the large public utilities, the power from Boulder Dam. With the advent of this power and together with the Colorado River water, there will be presented to industry inducements to locate in Southern California such as have never existed before. The large volume of power at comparatively low rates will attract to Southern California large basic industries, such as electrolitic refining plants, which are also users of tremendous quantities of water. To induce these industries to come to Southern California water must be available to them at prices which they can regard as attractive. It is entirely consistent with good business principles to make water available to large consumers at rates lower in proportion to consumption. Fortunately we have a condition in Southern California which makes such a situation especially favorable. In spite of the fact that we are located in a desert environment, with adequate sources of

water hundreds of miles distant, Southern California has at present very low water rates whem compared with practically all of the large industrial centers of the Nation, although these centers are located in most instances close to abundant water supplies and have climates furnishing them with rainfall throughout the calendar year.

If one-third the capacity of the Aqueduct can be sold at rates comparable with 180 of the largest cities in the United States, practically the entire annual cost, including amortization, can be met in the year of maximum annual expense. This is an exceedingly important situation of profound significance. It means that with approximately one-third of the Aqueduct put to use the remaining two-thirds of its capacity is available at the operating and maintenance cost of transmitting the additional water.

As an offset to selling one-third of the Aqueduct capacity at the average price being charged in the major cities throughout the United States, there could very reasonably be made a readjustment of rates as among the various classes of users in the cities, each paying in proportion to its ability and interest. By advancing the present domestic water rates for all local water supplies to the average of the 180 cities as mentioned, the additional revenue so obtained would make possible a material reduction in the price at which it would be necessary to sell the first one-third capacity of the

Aqueduct in order to meet the District's maximum annual cost.

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The question has been raised as to the circumstances under which the large existing potential demand for agricultural purposes could be met from the Aqueduct. This is a problem for which no final solution can be given at present, but one upon which careful and extensive studies are being made by a special committee of the District's Board of Directors and the staff.

Outside the District organization committees representing large and highly valuable citrus and municipal areas are also working on the problem from their local angle. At a meeting here in Riverside a few weeks ago, at a forum discussion, a suggestion was made from the floor which in my opinion had special merit. A gentleman proposed that water at present being diverted from local sources for domestic and industrial purposes be released to agriculture, and a supply substituted from the Aqueduct. This would turn over to agriculture within the District's limits water which is not now available to it, and which would probably meet a large percentage of existing

deficiencies. Such a procedure would, in effect, represent a subsidizing of agriculture. From a strictly economic point of view this would be, in my opinion, an advantageous thing to do. By decreasing to the minimum water costs for agriculture, the cities would be building up the wealth, value, and annual profits of their back country and incidentally their own. From the standpoint of the city, anything along this line would be highly advantageous and would probably result in benefits equal to those accruing directly to farmers and growers.

In this same connection, and in closing, I will give you a hypothetical picture of our whole problem of water supply in Southern California as it might be viewed in its broadest and most fundamental economic aspect. Let us assume for a moment that one agency owned all the land of Southern California and also owned all of the water supply. How would that agency proceed to utilize the land and the water to the greatest ultimate good of the area? There are two factors to be considered. One is the price at which the water was sold, and the other is the wealth which would result from the use of the water. If the water costs were made high, the value of the land would decrease and the amount of wealth created would be less in proportion. On the other hand, if the water costs were made low, the utilization of the land would be increased, its production would increase, and the accummulated wealth expand

likewise in proportion. The maximum annual return from the land and the maximum wealth created would probably be highest as the cost of the water to the user approached zero.

The wealth that has been created in the San Fernando Valley is a practical example of what I mean. The diversion of one hundred second feet of water into that valley has made possible the development of more than enough wealth to build the Colorado River Aqueduct.

The distribution of the Colorado River water at a reasonably low cost can logically and practically be made to produce sufficient taxing wealth to carry the annual costs of the project without increasing the average tax burden.

I have tried, Gentlemen, as I said in the beginning, to give you a picture of some of the economic relationships between the Aqueduct and the future of Southern California in its broadest and most fundamental aspects. The question of who shall participate in the benefits of Aqueduct water, and the manner of distributing the cost, are largely your problems. As business leaders it is to your communities' interest that you apply your sound experience and judgment to the solution of these problems in the most constructive manner for all concerned.

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ADDRESS BEFORE
THE SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA ECONOMIC COUNCIL
Riverside, California--December 14, 1935
by W. P. WHITSETT
Chairman,
Board of Directors of The Metropolitan
Water District of Southern California

Mr. Chairman and Friends:

I have been asked to discuss with you some of the fundamental economic aspects of the Colorado River Aqueduct Project. Three years ago this month the work was started. It is scheduled for completion three years hence at the beginning of 1939.

At present eight thousand men are employed and during next year we will probably enter the period of maximum activity. Of ninety-two miles of tunnel on the main line, eighty-two have been excavated leaving only ten miles to be driven. Similar progress is being made on the other features of the work. Each month we are using in the neighborhood of 3,000 carloads of material, equipment, and supplies. I mention these quantities to give you a rough idea of the magnitude of the work and the progress being made. Expenditures for labor, materials and services are now averaging about $4,000,000 a month.

From an economic standpoint, the history of Southern California can best be told in terms of available water supply. On this basis, since the founding of Los Angeles in 1781, we can define three broad periods or changes in our economic

structure.

The first period terminated with the great drought of 1862 that practically put an end to grazing which had been the principal industry to that time.

The second period, in which dry farming was the primary activity, terminated in the 80's largely because the recurring droughts had made this business too uncertain and profitless.

The third period is characterized by the development of the citrus industry and the industrialization of Southern California. The beginning of our industrial progress can be definitely marked by the completion of the Owens Valley Aqueduct. Without that water supply, any measure of industrial growth such as we now observe would be an absolute impossibility. I could go into detail and give you statistical facts as to the different years of drought and their tragic consequences in the terms of loss of wealth and consequent human misery and economic uncertainty. Many of you are fully familiar with this information; some of you from actual experience in the 80's and 90's.

Since 1900, or since Los Angeles was an over-grown village of a hundred thousand inhabitants, we have not had a drought approaching in severity a number preceding that time. Engineers have definitely marked two droughts of long duration in the past one hundred and fifty years: one beginning in 1781 and lasting until 1809; the second beginning in 1842

and continuing until 1883, or forty-one years. During these periods there were, of course, wet years, but the majority were critically subnormal in rainfall.

Of even more striking significance to me is the record of the fluctuations of the level of Lake Elsinore. The records show that at one time in the past century Lake Elsinore was reduced to practically a marsh and was many feet below its present level. Engineers are generally agreed that since 1916 we have been in what may be characterized as a moderately dry cycle, and yet Lake Elsinore in spite of diversions which did not exist a century ago, and which have further reduced the inflow into it, is comparatively much higher. I merely mention these factors as a background to a discussion of the economic aspects of the Aqueduct. It is important that you bear these considerations in mind as having a bearing on the future of Southern California.

With the coming of Colorado River water, Southern California will enter upon a new phase of growth and expansion. There are some who will argue that we have come to a turn in the road leading to a less promising future, of stagnation or at best of growth of only insignificant proportions. They proceed to build up elaborate arguments on this premise.

If we will think back but a comparatively few years, we will find that there were in 1910 many who held the same opinions. Those who argued against the building of the

Los Angeles Aqueduct contended that there would be no need for the water, that the city had approached the ultimate in its growth and that expansion would soon come to an end. Since that time Los Angeles County alone has grown to a point where its factories have turned out goods to an aggregate value of over one billion three hundred million dollars a year. The population of Los Angeles City has grown to a million and a quarter, ranking the fifth largest city in the United States and the nineteenth in the world. The State is the second in the Union in the value of farming products and the fourth in the production of mineral resources, and ranks third in per capita banking resources.

If we are to think of the future of Southern California in terms of the last few years, it is obvious that the true picture must be adversely distorted. However, those who have confidence in American institutions and the diversity and ingenuity which have made us the greatest Nation in the world must have an altogether different outlook. The depression years must be looked upon as a period of readjustment and consolidation resulting in the creation of a new basic and more sound level from which to advance. When the readjustments have been completed, and there is considerable evidence that they are being, the pent up energy of the American people will burst into activity with explosive force. Out of the realities which the depression has forced upon us will come

a new conception as to a standard of living. The period of growth and expansion terminated with the settling up of the national domain will take a new course in the form of improvements in housing, in the production of more and more necessities, semi-necessities, and luxuries at continuing lower prices, and an expansion of purchasing power geared to the new standard of living.

These influences will undoubtedly mean more to Southern California than to any other part of the Nation. With increased mobility and with refinements of living, people will inevitably choose the advantages which we have to offer in terms of climate and the pleasures, comforts and conveniences which humankind has always sought.

Industry has turned to Southern California in earnest. The aviation industry, now in its infancy, will, in my opinion, become inevitably localized in California just as the motion picture industry did some years previously. The manifold advantages which we have to offer will lead directly to growth of population, industry, and the expansion of agriculture, all of which must be provided with an increasing water supply not only to take care of the actual growth, but also to take care of the increased rate of consumption which has always characterized the advance of civilization and industry.

As in the case of the background of deficient natural

water supplies which I mentioned previously, I bring out these factors as having an important bearing upon the consideration of the economic aspects of the Colorado River Aqueduct.

In considering the economics of the Colorado River Aqueduct Project, we must take a broad view. If we rough out the basic and fundamental outlines of the picture, the details can be filled in as time advances. Occasionally we are asked by skeptics and our critics to designate the particular place or places to which Colorado River water is going to be put to use. While technical minds haggle over these fine points, any conclusions at which they may arrive are, in the last analysis, purely academic and may have no meaning in the light of experience. From the broad and fundamental aspects of the picture it is sufficient for business minds at this stage of the program to know the general area of consumption and the outside limits to the different factors involved.

I have already indicated the historical conditions which compel Southern California to protect itself to the utmost in assuring its water supply, and the reasonable prospects of increased future demands on our water supply which must be met. There is still a further consideration, and that is the immediate water situation in Southern California. Engineers have demonstrated that our present consumptive use exceeds our average water supply, including present importations. They have shown that this has been the case for a number of years, and that our underground water reserves, which constitute

our primary supply, are constantly dimishing. The general situation fluctuates a little from year to year with the rainfall, but the long trend is towards complete exhaustion of our underground supply. Conditions also vary as between areas, some being at the moment reasonably well-assured as to their water supplies, and others being in a precarious and uncertain condition. On the basis of established fact, it would not be unreasonable to argue that the expenditure for the Colorado River Aqueduct is justified even though none of its water is put to use for five or ten years. Two succeeding dry years such as we have experienced in the past could very easily do more damage to Southern California than is represented by the cost of this project. The loss of one year's agricultural produce, the destruction of an appreciable area of citrus development, the loss of industries by diversion to other areas more favorably situated with regard to water supply, besides the damage to our credit and the loss of confidence of the balance of the Nation in our security, could easily total a stupendous figure.

Aside from that, no civilized community can afford to gamble with human happiness and the stability of accummulated wealth representing the labors of millions of people for many years. So, I say, it would be reasonable to contend that purely from the standpoint of securing our present growth, development, the homes of our people, and our

prospects of continued expansion, the construction of this Aqueduct could be amply justified.

But those are matters of moral and philosophical discussion, and are not cold-blooded, unsympathetic considerations of economics. The Metropolitan Water District was started by eleven of the largest communities in Southern California which, in fact, were the underwriters of the project. Since its inception the project has been decreased by two cities and increased by four. The cities undertaking the project have not been in every case those most severely pressed for an adequate water supply. But they have taken the broader point of view that no city is complete in itself, nor can stand by itself, but is an integral part of the larger economic area of which it is a part.

Early in the project the representatives of the cities in the District defined the larger economic area for which the Aqueduct is designed. Roughly, this area comprises a territory lying between the mountains and the Pacific Ocean from the Ventura County line to the Southern Orange County line, extending eastward as far as the summit of the San Gorgonio Pass. This is the Coastal Plain of Southern California, every part of which is laced together by a multitude of mutually advantageous business activities. The part of the area not now included within the District must eventually and inevitably be a part of the District or go backwards. Whether they join this

year or next year is of minor consequence. The fact remains that as certainly as day follows night the time will come when lack of rainfall and the encroaching desert will compel them to come to the Aqueduct for water. Anyone who would deny such a prediction is ignorant of the records of the past.

Within the area I have outlined, there are over a half a million acres of excellent land suitable for any kind of development, from agricultural and suburban home uses to highly intensified industrial concentration, not at present having a water supply. This area is approximately equal to that now under development, With the consolidation of the area outlined within the Metropolitan Water District, including these lands just mentioned, the territory will exhaust the demand which may safely be placed upon the Aqueduct.

Of course, until the area is completely developed, there will be a large margin of reserve, but any sound water development must always be from twenty to thirty years in advance of complete utilization. With this area consolidated as tributary to the Aqueduct, the project could be administered in the soundest manner for the utilization of both existing local supplies and the imported water.

The coastal plain area described represents what may be called the primary unit for which the aqueduct is designed. I do not intend in any sense to convey the meaning that the

project must necessarily be limited to this area. The final decision rests with the cities and the people comprised within the boundaries designated. Beyond this primary area on the coastal plain is a larger area which may be designated as the secondary economic unit. This comprises the coastal region from Santa Barbara to San Diego, exclusive of the coastal plain, all of which is equally and probably much more greatlyconcerned with questions of water supply. Between Santa Barbara and Ventura on the north, and Orange County and San Diego City on the south, are two areas whose fertility and economic and social possibilities are not to be exceeded anywhere. If this entire secondary area were to become immediately tributary to the Aqueduct, there is no question but that its capacity would be inadequate for its ultimate development.

To what extent the Board of Directors of the Metropolitan Water District would encourage the growth of this larger area at the probable expense of the compact primary unit, is a matter for the future to decide. In a real sense it goes beyond the responsibility of the Board of Directors and is the concern of business leaders of Southern California such as are represented in this meeting. Even though the use of Aqueduct water were conserved for the primary unit, it is conceivable that in periods of extreme drought such as will inevitably occur, it will be necessary for the Aqueduct in an emergency to temporarily assist and protect the areas to the north and

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From the financial aspect the most important and difficult period of the aqueduct's operation will be the five or ten years immediately following its completion. At that time the sale of water will be at the minimum. On the other hand, the annual cost of the project will begin to increase. The amortization of the bonds will begin fifteen years from the date of their issue. Until amortization begins, the annual cost will consist of interest and operation and maintenance expenses, including the cost of power contracted for with the Federal Government from the Boulder Canyon Project.

The sale of water by the District as now planned will be strictly on a wholesale basis to its members. This leaves the responsibility as to how the costs are to be met with the individual members, whether they be cities or large districts incorporated for membership. Consider for a moment the extreme possibilities which the individual members may choose in meeting their share of the cost. We may arbitrarily assume that,first, all of the expense is met by taxation, and second, from water revenues. Either of these two alternatives would undoubtedly represent an unfair distribution. To place the entire cost on taxes would be to penalize those owning vacant or highly improved property, or who are small consumers of water. To place the entire cost on water rates would be to penalize the large users of water and favor those owning vacant

property whose values are increased by the surrounding growth and development which the water will make possible.

This problem is not the primary concern of the District, but of the civic and industrial leaders of the communities such as you gathered here. It is your problem and you should be prepared to help solve it at the proper time.

Let us consider one more phase of this question of the cost of water. Approximately at the same time the Aqueduct is completed, Southern California will receive from Boulder Dam through the municipal power systems and the large public utilities, the power from Boulder Dam. With the advent of this power and together with the Colorado River water, there will be presented to industry inducements to locate in Southern California such as have never existed before. The large volume of power at comparatively low rates will attract to Southern California large basic industries, such as electrolitic refining plants, which are also users of tremendous quantities of water. To induce these industries to come to Southern California water must be available to them at prices which they can regard as attractive. It is entirely consistent with good business principles to make water available to large consumers at rates lower in proportion to consumption. Fortunately we have a condition in Southern California which makes such a situation especially favorable. In spite of the fact that we are located in a desert environment, with adequate sources of

water hundreds of miles distant, Southern California has at present very low water rates whem compared with practically all of the large industrial centers of the Nation, although these centers are located in most instances close to abundant water supplies and have climates furnishing them with rainfall throughout the calendar year.

If one-third the capacity of the Aqueduct can be sold at rates comparable with 180 of the largest cities in the United States, practically the entire annual cost, including amortization, can be met in the year of maximum annual expense. This is an exceedingly important situation of profound significance. It means that with approximately one-third of the Aqueduct put to use the remaining two-thirds of its capacity is available at the operating and maintenance cost of transmitting the additional water.

As an offset to selling one-third of the Aqueduct capacity at the average price being charged in the major cities throughout the United States, there could very reasonably be made a readjustment of rates as among the various classes of users in the cities, each paying in proportion to its ability and interest. By advancing the present domestic water rates for all local water supplies to the average of the 180 cities as mentioned, the additional revenue so obtained would make possible a material reduction in the price at which it would be necessary to sell the first one-third capacity of the

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deficiencies. Such a procedure would, in effect, represent a subsidizing of agriculture. From a strictly economic point of view this would be, in my opinion, an advantageous thing to do. By decreasing to the minimum water costs for agriculture, the cities would be building up the wealth, value, and annual profits of their back country and incidentally their own. From the standpoint of the city, anything along this line would be highly advantageous and would probably result in benefits equal to those accruing directly to farmers and growers.

In this same connection, and in closing, I will give you a hypothetical picture of our whole problem of water supply in Southern California as it might be viewed in its broadest and most fundamental economic aspect. Let us assume for a moment that one agency owned all the land of Southern California and also owned all of the water supply. How would that agency proceed to utilize the land and the water to the greatest ultimate good of the area? There are two factors to be considered. One is the price at which the water was sold, and the other is the wealth which would result from the use of the water. If the water costs were made high, the value of the land would decrease and the amount of wealth created would be less in proportion. On the other hand, if the water costs were made low, the utilization of the land would be increased, its production would increase, and the accummulated wealth expand

likewise in proportion. The maximum annual return from the land and the maximum wealth created would probably be highest as the cost of the water to the user approached zero.

The wealth that has been created in the San Fernando Valley is a practical example of what I mean. The diversion of one hundred second feet of water into that valley has made possible the development of more than enough wealth to build the Colorado River Aqueduct.

The distribution of the Colorado River water at a reasonably low cost can logically and practically be made to produce sufficient taxing wealth to carry the annual costs of the project without increasing the average tax burden.

I have tried, Gentlemen, as I said in the beginning, to give you a picture of some of the economic relationships between the Aqueduct and the future of Southern California in its broadest and most fundamental aspects. The question of who shall participate in the benefits of Aqueduct water, and the manner of distributing the cost, are largely your problems. As business leaders it is to your communities' interest that you apply your sound experience and judgment to the solution of these problems in the most constructive manner for all concerned.

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ADDRESS FOR NATIONAL EMERGENCY COUNCIL
Monday, November 18, 1935
BILTMORE HOTEL

By W. P. Whitsett, Chairman,
Board of Directors of
The Metropolitan Water District
of Southern California

Mr. Chairman, Mr. Walker, and Friends:

We are here today to review briefly the many great Civic projects that are being carried forward as the intelligent modern American answer to the challenge of this momentous transition period in the progress of our civilization.

I have the honor to speak for The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California which is building the Colorado River Aqueduct at a cost of $220,000,000. By the expenditure of this money, more than 200,000 persons throughout the Nation are being furnished with purchasing power over a period of six years, while the 2,500,000 people on the coastal plains of Southern California are being made secure in their homes and communities representing $7,000,000,000 of wealth.

The Boulder Canyon Project was made possible largely by our contract with the United States Government to take 36% of the firm hydro-electric power to be generated there.

The completion of the Colorado River Aqueduct in 1938 will mean that 1,400,000 acres of fertile, semi-arid, habitable land in this coastal area are protected for all time against the creeping paralysis of the encroaching desert of industry stagnation

"Without vision, the people perish." The citizens of The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California,

representing one-half the population and one-third the taxable wealth of the entire State of California, realized that this area has tributary to it less than one per cent of the State's water resources. Seeing the compelling necessity of additional water supply to protect their homes and insure their future growth, they voted, five to one in September 1931, for bonds to guarantee the repayment of the money with interest which is being furnished by the Reconstruction Finance Corporation to carry on this project. These bonds constitute a first mortgage on the entire wealth of the 13 member-cities.

Consider these figures. Each month four million dollars are being paid into the trade channels of the Nation and this will increase rapidly during the coming year. 8,000 men are employed RIGHT NOW on the Aqueduct, and this number will be increased to 12,000 within the next six months. While this army of men is working directly on a necessary, constructive, and wealth-creating job, they are using equipment and materials from practically every large industrial center in the Nation, requiring at the least estimate, 30,000 additional men steadily employed to furnish said materials.

During the month of October, we used over 2500 carloads of material, equipment and supplies. Think of it. Almost 100 cars per day.

We are using seven million barrels of cement - enough to build a 14 foot highway from Los Angeles to New York City, - and 248,000 tons of steel requiring over 8,000 thirty-ton cars or

200 forty-car trains to transport it. Similar figures, staggering to the imagination, represent copper, aluminum, lumber, and other items too numerous to mention.

While plans for the Colorado River Aqueduct were started ten years ago, it seems Providential that the ACTUAL CONSTRUCTION of this greatest single piece of public work in the World, should be going on during these years when ~~the~~ useful, conserv. is the challenge to the main. of our National administration has as its first concern the humanitarian whole economic structure work of creating useful jobs to relieve unemployment.

We are building the Colorado River Aqueduct to last through the ages. It must last as long as civilization continues on this coastal plain, for it is bringing to us the foremost necessity of life which is WATER.

President Roosevelt, in the dedication ceremonies at Boulder City, stated - "This is an engineering Victory of the first order--but it must be considered in its relationship to the agricultural and industrial development and its contribution to the health and comfort of the people who live in the Southwest." The same words may well be applied to this Colorado River Aqueduct.

When you watch the building of the Colorado River Aqueduct, you are watching the greatest factor in the building of a new Empire--an Empire to which millions of people now looking Westward will come to enjoy life, as it can only be enjoyed here in the sunkissed valleys of California.

November 18, 1935.

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ADDRESS BEFORE
THE SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA ECONOMIC COUNCIL
Riverside, California--December 14, 1935
by W. P. WHITSETT

Mr. Chairman and Friends:

I have been asked to discuss with you some of the fundamental economic aspects of the Colorado River Aqueduct Project. Three years ago this month the work was started. It is scheduled for completion three years hence at the beginning of 1939.

At present eight thousand men are employed and during next year we will probably enter the period of maximum activity. Of ninety-two miles of tunnel on the main line, eighty-two have been excavated leaving only ten miles to be driven. Similar progress is being made on the other features of the work. Each month we are using in the neighborhood of ~~twenty-five hundred~~ 3000 carloads of material. I mention these quantities to give you a rough idea of the magnitude of the work and the progress being made.

A. (Historic Background of Southern California's Water Supply Problem.)

From an economic standpoint, the history of Southern California can best be told in terms of available water supply. On this basis, since the founding of Los Angeles in 1781, we can define three broad periods or changes in our economic structure.

The first period terminated with the great drought of 1862 that practically put an end to grazing which had been the principal industry to that time.

The second period, in which dry farming was the primary activity, terminated in the 80's largely because the recurring droughts had made this business too uncertain and profitless.

The third period is characterized by the development of the citrus industry and the industrialization of Southern California. The beginning of our industrial progress can be definitely marked by the completion of the Owens Valley Aqueduct. Without that water supply, any measure of industrial growth such as we now observe would be an absolute impossibility. I could go into detail and give you statistical facts as to the different years of drought and their tragic consequences in the terms of loss of wealth and consequent human misery and economic uncertainty. Many of you are fully familiar with this information; some of you from actual experience in the 80's and 90's.

Since 1900, or since Los Angeles was an over-grown village of a hundred thousand inhabitants, we have not had a drought approaching in severity a number preceding that time. Engineers have definitely marked two droughts of long duration in the past one hundred and fifty years: one beginning in 1781 and lasting until 1809; the second beginning in 1842 and continuing until 1883, or forty-one years. During those periods there were, of course, wet years, but the majority were critically subnormal in rainfall.

Of even more striking significance to me is the record of the fluctuations of the level of Lake Elsinore. The records show that at one time in the past century Lake Elsinore was reduced

to practically a marsh and was ~~twenty~~ many feet below its present level. Engineers are generally agreed that since 1916 we have been in what may be characterized as a moderately dry cycle, and yet Lake Elsinore in spite of diversions which did not exist a century ago, and which have further reduced the inflow into it, is comparatively much higher. I merely mention these factors as a background to a discussion of the economic aspects of the Aqueduct. It is important that you bear these considerations in mind as having a bearing on the future of Southern California.

B. With the coming of Colorado River water, Southern California will enter upon a new phase of growth and expansion. There are some who will argue that we have come to a turn in the road leading to a less promising future, of stagnation or at best of growth of only insignificant proportions. They proceed to build up elaborate arguments on this premise.

If we will think back but a comparatively few years, we will find that there were in 1910 many who held the same opinions. Those who argued against the building of the Los Angeles Aqueduct contended that there would be no need for the water, that the city had approached the ultimate in its growth and that expansion would soon come to an end. Since that time Los Angeles County alone has grown to a point where its factories have turned out goods to an aggregate value of over one billion three hundred million dollars a year. The population of Los Angeles City has grown to a million and a quarter, ranking the fifth largest city in the United States and the nineteenth in the world. The State is the second in the

Union in the value of farming products and the fourth in the production of mineral resources, and ranks third per capita ~~in~~ banking resources.

If we are to think of the future of Southern California in terms of the last few years, it is obvious that a true picture of the future must be adversely distorted. However, those who have confidence in our institutions and the diversity and ingenuity which have made us the greatest Nation in the world must have an altogether different outlook. The depression years must be looked upon as a period of readjustment and consolidation resulting in the creation of a new basic and more sound level from which to advance. When the readjustments have been completed, and there is considerable evidence that they are being, the pent up energy of the American people will burst into activity with explosive force. Out of the realities which the depression has forced upon us will come a new conception as to a standard of living. The growth and expansion terminated with the settling up of the national domain will take a new course in the form of improvements in housing, in the production of more and more necessities, semi-necessities, and luxuries at continuing lower prices, and an expansion of purchasing power geared to a new scheme of living.

These influences will undoubtedly mean more to Southern California than to any other part of the Nation. With increased mobility and refinements of living, people will inevitably choose the advantages which we have to offer in terms of climate and other comforts & ~~pleasures of life as readily accessible.~~ conveniences of living

The aviation industry, which is now in its infancy, will, in my opinion, become inevitably localized in California just as the motion picture industry did some years previously. These considerations lead ~~inevitably~~ to growth of population, industry, and the expansion of agriculture, all of which must be provided with an increasing water supply not only to take care of the actual growth, but to take care of increased rate of consumption which has always characterized the advance of civilization and industry.

As in the case of the background of deficient natural water supplies which I mentioned previously, I bring out these factors as having an important bearing upon the consideration of the economic aspects of the Colorado River Aqueduct.

C. In considering the economics of the Colorado River Aqueduct Project, we must take a broad view. If we rough out the basic and fundamental outlines of the picture, the details can be filled in as time advances. Occasionally we are asked by skeptics and our critics to designate the particular place or places to which Colorado River water is going to be put to use. While technical minds haggle over these fine points, any conclusions at which they may arrive are, in the last analysis, purely academic and may have no meaning in the light of experience. From the broad and fundamental aspect of the picture it is sufficient for business minds at this stage of the program to know the general area of consumption and the outside limits to the different factors involved.

I have already indicated the historical conditions which compel Southern California to protect itself to the utmost in assuring its water supply, and the reasonable prospects of increased future demands on our water supply which must be met. There is still a further consideration, and that is the immediate water situation in Southern California. Engineers have demonstrated that our present consumptive use exceeds our average water supply, including present importations. They have shown that this has been the case for a number of years, and that our underground water reserves, which constitute our primary supply, are constantly diminishing. The general situation fluctuates a little from year to year with the rainfall, but the long trend is towards complete exhaustion of our underground supply. Conditions also vary as between areas, some being at the moment reasonably well-assured as to their water supplies, and others being in a precarious and uncertain condition. On the basis of established fact, it would not be unreasonable to argue that the expenditure for the Colorado River Aqueduct is justified even though none of its water is put to use for five or ten years. Two succeeding dry years such as we have experienced in the past could very easily do more damage to Southern California than is represented by the cost of this project ~~several times over~~. The loss of one year's agricultural produce, the destruction of an appreciable area of citrus development, the loss of industries by diversion to other areas more favorably situated with regard to water supply, besides the damage to credit and the confidence of the balance of the Nation in our security, could easily total a stupendous figure.

Aside from that, no civilized community can afford to gamble with human happiness and the stability of accummulated wealth representing the labors of millions of people for many years. So, I say, it would be reasonable to contend that purely from the standpoint of securing our present growth, development, the homes of our people, and our prospects of growth, the construction of this Aqueduct could be amply justified.

But those are matters of moral and philosophical discussion, and are not cold-blooded, unsympathetic considerations of economics. The Metropolitan Water District was started by eleven of the largest communities in Southern California which, in fact, were the underwriters of the project. Since its inception the project has been decreased by two cities and increased by four. The cities undertaking the project have not been in every case those most severely pressed for an adequate water supply. But they have taken the broader point of view that no city is complete in itself, nor can stand by itself, but is an integral part of the larger economic area of which it is a part.

Early in the project the representatives of the cities in the District defined the larger economic area for which the Aqueduct is designed. Roughly, this area comprises a territory lying between the mountains and the Pacific Ocean from the Ventura County line to the ~~San Diego~~ Southern Orange County line, extending eastward as far as the summit of the San Gorgonio Pass. This is the Coastal Plain of Southern California, every part of which is laced together by a multitude of mutually advantageous business activities. The

part of the area not now included within the District must eventually and inevitably be a part of the District or go backwards. Whether they join this year or next year is of minor consequence. The fact remains that as certainly as day follows night the time will come when lack of rainfall and the encroaching desert will compel them to come to the Aqueduct for water. Anyone who would deny such a prediction is ignorant of the records of the past.

Within the area I have outlined, there are over a half a million acres of excellent land suitable for any kind of development, from agricultural and suburban home uses to highly intensified industrial concentration, not at present having a water supply. This area is approximately equal to that now under development. With the consolidation of the area outlined, including these lands within the Metropolitan Water District, the territory will exhaust the demand which may safely be placed upon the Aqueduct.

Of course, until the area is completely developed, there will be a large margin of reserve, but any sound water development must always be from twenty to thirty years in advance of complete utilization. With this area consolidated as tributary to the Aqueduct, the project could be administered in the soundest manner for the utilization of both existing local supplies and the imported water.

The area which I have just described represents what may be called the primary unit for which the aqueduct is designed. I

do not intend in any sense to convey the meaning that the project must necessarily be limited to this area. The final decision rests with the cities and the people comprised within the boundaries designated. Beyond this primary area on the coastal plain is a larger area which may be designated as the secondary economic unit. This comprises the territory from Santa Barbara to San Diego, all of which is equally and probably much more greatly concerned with questions of water supply. Between Santa Barbara and Ventura, and Orange County and San Diego City on the south, are two areas whose fertility and economic and social possibilities are not to be exceeded anywhere. If this entire secondary area were to become immediately tributary to the Aqueduct, there is no question but that its capacity would be inadequate for its ultimate development.

To what extent the Board of Directors of the Metropolitan Water District would encourage the growth of this large area at the probable expense of the compact primary unit, is a matter for the future to decide. In a larger sense it goes beyond the responsibility of the Board of Directors and is the concern of business leaders of Southern California such as are represented in this meeting. Even though the use of Aqueduct water were conserved for ~~the use of~~ the primary unit, it is conceivable that in periods of extreme drought such as will inevitably occur, it will be necessary for the Aqueduct in an emergency to temporarily assist and protect the areas to the north and south.

From the financial aspect the most important and difficult period of the aqueduct's operation will be the five or ten years immediately following its completion. At that time the

sale of water will be at the minimum. On the other hand, the annual cost of the project will begin to increase. The amortization of the bonds will begin fifteen years from the date of their issue. Until amortization begins, the annual cost will consist of interest and operation and maintenance expenses, including the cost of power contracted for with the Federal Government from the Boulder Canyon Project.

The sale of water by the District will be strictly on a wholesale basis to its members. This leaves the responsibility as to how the costs are to be met with the individual members, whether they be cities or large districts incorporated for membership. Considering for a moment the extreme possibilities which the individual members may choose in meeting their share of the cost, we may arbitrarily assume that all of it may be placed on taxes or on water revenues. Either of these two alternatives would undoubtedly represent an unfair distribution. To place the entire cost on taxes would be to penalize those owning vacant property or who are small consumers of water. To place the entire cost on water rates would be to penalize the large users of water and favor those owning vacant property and whose values are increased by the surrounding growth and development which the water will make possible.

This problem is not the primary concern of the District, but of the civic and industrial leaders of the communities such as you gathered here. It is your problem and you should be prepared to help solve it at the proper time.

Let us consider one more phase of this question of the cost of water. Approximately at the same time the Aqueduct is completed, Southern California will receive from Boulder Dam through the municipal power systems and the large public utilities the power from Boulder Dam. With the advent of this power and in addition the Colorado River water supply there will be presented to industry inducements to locate in Southern California such as have never existed before. The large volume of power at comparatively low rates will attract to Southern California large basic industries, such as electrolitic refining plants, which are also users of tremendous quantities of water. To induce these industries to come to Southern California water must be available to them at prices which they can regard as attractive. It is entirely consistent with good business principles to make water available to large consumers at rates lower in proportion to consumption. Fortunately we have a condition in Southern California which makes such a situation especially favorable. In spite of the fact that we are located in a desert environment, with an adequate source of water hundreds of miles distant, Southern California has at present very low water rates when compared with practically all of the large industrial centers of the nation although these are located in most instances close to abundant water supplies and have climates furnishing them with rainfall throughout the calendar year.

If one-third the capacity of the Aqueduct can be sold at rates comparable with 180 of the largest cities in the United States, practically the entire annual cost, including amortization,

can be met in the year of maximum annual expense. This is an exceedingly important situation of profound significance. It means that with approximately one-third of the Aqueduct put to use the remaining two-thirds of its capacity is available at the operating and maintenance cost of transmitting the water.

As an offset to selling one-third of the Aqueduct capacity at the average price being charged in the major cities throughout the United States, there could very reasonably be made a readjustment of rates as among the various classes of users in the cities, each paying in proportion to its ability and interest. By advancing the present domestic water rates for all local water supplies to the average of the 180 cities as mentioned, the additional revenue so obtained would make possible a material reduction in the price at which it would be necessary to sell the first one-third capacity of the Aqueduct in order to meet the District's maximum annual cost.

To quote figures for a specific comparison, the average rate at which water is being sold at present in the member cities of the District, is approximately 12¢ per hundred cubic feet, or 750 gallons. The average rate in the 180 major cities of the United States is 18¢ per hundred cubic feet. This compares with the present rate in San Diego of 22¢ a hundred cubic feet, and in San Francisco of 28¢ per hundred cubic feet.

The question has been raised as to the circumstances under which the large existing potential demand for agricultural purposes could be met from the Aqueduct. This is a problem for which no final solution can be given at present, but one upon which careful and extensive studies are being made by ~~the District's staff.~~ a special committee of the Board of Directors and the staff

Committees representing large and highly valuable citrus districts are also working on the problem from their local angle. At a meeting here in Riverside a few weeks ago, at a Forum discussion, a suggestion was made from the floor which in my opinion had special merit. A gentleman proposed that water at present being diverted from local sources for domestic and industrial purposes be released to agriculture, and a supply substituted from the Aqueduct. This would turn over to agriculture within the District's limits water which is not now available to them, and which would probably meet a large percentage of existing deficiencies. This would represent a subsidizing of agriculture. From a strictly economic point of view this would be, in my opinion, an advantageous thing to do. By decreasing to the minimum water costs for agriculture, the cities would be building up the wealth, value, and annual profits of their back country. From the standpoint of the city, anything along this line would be highly advantageous and would probably equal the benefits which would accrue to farmers and growers.

In this same connection, and in closing, I will give you a hypothetical picture of this whole problem of water supply in Southern California as it might be viewed in its broadest and most fundamental economic viewpoint. Let us assume for a moment that one agency owned all of Southern California and also owned all of the water supply. How would that agency proceed to utilize the land and the water to the greatest ultimate good of the area? There are two factors to be considered. One is the price at which the water was sold, and the other is the wealth which would result from the use of the water. If the water costs were made high, the value of the land would decrease adversely and the amount of wealth

created would be less in proportion. On the other hand, if the water costs were made low, the utilization of the land would be increased, its production would increase, and the accummulated wealth expand likewise in proportion. The maximum annual return from the land and the maximum wealth created would probably be highest as the cost of the water to the user reduced to zero.

The wealth that has been created in the San Fernando Valley is a practical example of what I mean. The diversion of one hundred second feet of water into that valley has made possible the development of more than enough wealth to build the Colorado River Aqueduct.

The distribution of the Colorado River water at a reasonably low cost can logically & practically be made in time to produce sufficient taxing wealth to carry the annual costs of the project ~~many times over~~ without increasing the average tax burden.

I have tried, Gentlemen, as I said in the beginning, to give you a picture of some of the economic relationship between the Aqueduct and the future of Southern California in its broadest and most fundamental aspects. The matter of your participation in the benefits of Aqueduct water, and the manner of distributing the cost, are largely your problems. As business leaders it is to your communities' interest that you apply your sound experience and judgment to the solution of these problems in the most constructive manner to all concerned.

WHT
7

ADDRESS by W. P. WHITSETT BEFORE THE ELECTRIC CLUB

DECEMBER 9, 1935

Mr. Chairman, members of the Electric Club, and guests:

Many years ago, the completion of the Owens River Aqueduct met the necessities and demonstrated the possibilities of Los Angeles' immediate future growth. But a small, serious-minded, forward-looking, and "stepping" group looked further into the future. They, with that that water warrior, William Mulholland, were convinced that the seating of Empire in the Pacific Southwest depended upon an adequate, dependable, supplemental supply of water, buttressed and reinforced by cheap hydro-electric power for industrial purposes.

The final answer was the Boulder Canyon Dam and the Colorado River Aqueduct which makes possible the doubling of the present water and power resources of the coastal plains of Southern California.

The Colorado River Aqueduct is being built at a cost of $220,000,000. By the expenditure of this money, more than 200,000 persons are being furnished with purchasing power over a period of six years, while the 2,500,000 people on these coastal plains are being made secure in their homes and communities representing seven billions of wealth.

Construction at this time of the Boulder Canyon Project was made possible largely by the Metropolitan Water District contract with the United States Government to take 36% of the firm hydro-electric power to be generated there.

The completion of the Colorado River Aqueduct will mean the protection of our homes and investments, and make available water for growth and development of much of the 1,400,000 acres of fertile semi-arid, habitable land in this rich coastal area, this land having insufficient water.

Consider these figures. Each month, four million dollars are being paid into trade channels by The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California. Under the efficient organization of Frank E. Weymouth, our General Manager and Chief Engineer, 8000 men are employed right now on the aqueduct, and this number will be increased to 12,000 within the next six months. While this army of men is working directly on a necessary constructive and wealth-creating job, they are using equipment and materials from practically every industry, requiring, at the least estimate, 30,000 additional men steadily employed to furnish same.

We are now using approximately one hundred carloads of supplies daily.

We will require seven million barrels of cement - enough to build a 14-foot highway from Los Angeles to New York City - and 248,000 tons of steel requiring over 8,000 thirty-ton cars, or 200 forty-car trains to transport it. Similar figures, staggering to the imagination, represent copper, aluminum, lumber, and other items too numerous to mention.

While plans for the Colorado River Aqueduct were started ten years ago, it seems providential for this community that the actual construction of this largest single piece of public works

in the world should be going on during these years when useful, constructive employment is the challenge for the maintenance of our whole economic structure.

You gentlemen are interested in the development of Southern California. You know that industry follows population. And you know that population will only increase where water - a prime necessity of life - is amply assured. When you watch the building of the Colorado River Aqueduct, you are watching the greatest factor in the building of a new empire, - an Empire to which millions of people, now looking westward, will come to enjoy life as it can only be enjoyed here in the sun-kissed valleys of Southern California.

WHT
10

MEMORANDUM

W. P. Whitsett
January 3, 1936

You have asked me to account for the tremendous activity which is taking place in the San Fernando Valley today.

A number of homes located in fertile Garden Acres being constructed at the present time in San Fernando Valley probably exceeds that of any similar area in the United States. The reasons for this development are not hard to discover. To begin with, the lack of construction during the past five years of depression has resulted in an acute home shortage throughout the Nation. However, this does not in itself account for the rate at which building is proceeding in the San Fernando Valley. People are selecting San Fernando Valley as their homes for two fundamental reasons: they have become land conscious and water minded.

The depression years have compelled people to look more closely to the source of their food supply. Probably nowhere else in the United States can the food requirements of the families be more nearly met by home production. Every month of the year sees a diversity of crops under cultivation and harvest. Vegetables, fruits, berries, eggs, in quantity and variety, are available but for the effort of raising them.

However, without water this situation would be impossible. City streets do not yield these products to the city dweller. As never before people are willing and anxious

to supplement their incomes by the produce of their own gardens. However, even the great fertility of the San Fernando Valley would mean nothing without an ample and dependable water supply. The great droughts and consequent suffering throughout the Middle West during the past few years have made the people water conscious as never before.

With the horrors of droughts in their minds, people seeking the vibrant and enjoyable climate of Southern California have looked with apprehension on our water supplies. Not until they found that the San Fernando Valley has an ample and abundant water supply available at all times, delivered under pressure to their front gates through some 900 miles of large-size water mains, have they made their investments in the San Fernando Valley. Movement has now started; it will continue with accelerating speed. Those that came will pass the story of the San Fernando Valley and its adequate water supply to those locally and in distant places who are seeking homes.

The water supply of the San Fernando Valley has, in addition to the supply coming from the Owens Valley, the waters of the Colorado River which will arrive through the Metropolitan Water District Aqueduct within a couple of years. This second water supply will make certain that the San Fernando Valley will have water even through the periods of drought which regularly strike our Sierra Madre Mountains.

The unique position which the San Fernando Valley will find itself in as a result of doubly insured water supply will make possible expanding growth limited only by the amount of land available.

WHT
10

MEMORANDUM

W. P. Whitsett
January 3, 1936

You have asked me to account for the tremendous activity which is taking place in the San Fernando Valley today.

The number of homes located on fertile Garden Acres being constructed at the present time in San Fernando Valley exceeds that of any previous period in the development of the valley. The reasons for this development are not hard to discover. To begin with, the lack of construction during the past five years of depression has resulted in an acute home shortage throughout the Nation, and money is now available for Home Construction. These reasons, however, do not in themselves account for the rate at which building is proceeding in the San Fernando Valley. People are selecting San Fernando Valley as their homes for two fundamental reasons: they have become land-conscious and water-minded.

The depression years have compelled people to look more closely to the source of their food supply. Probably nowhere else in the United States can the food requirements of a family be more nearly met by home production. Every month of the year sees a diversity of crops under cultivation and harvest. Vegetables, fruits, berries, eggs, meat and milk, in quantity and variety, are available merely ~~by~~ for the effort of producing them.

However, without water this favorable situation would be impossible. City streets do not yield these products to the city dweller. As never before, people are willing and anxious to supplement their incomes and protect their families against want from loss of income. Even the great fertility of the San Fernando Valley would mean nothing without an ample and dependable water supply. The great droughts and consequent suffering throughout the

Middle West during the past few years have made the people water-conscious as never before.

With the horrors of droughts and rigors of winter in their minds, persons seeking the mild and enjoyable climate of Southern California have looked with questioning eyes on our water supplies. Not until observing the uncontestable facts set forth by the Water Exhibit at the San Diego Fair did purchasers realize that the San Fernando Valley has an ample and abundant water supply available at all times, delivered under pressure to home-owner's front gate through some 900 miles of large-size water mains. These water facts are bringing many home-seekers to make their investments in the San Fernando Valley. This movement to the Garden Home acres with dependable water, now started, will continue with accelerating speed. Those now here are passing the story of the San Fernando Valley and its adequate water supply to others locally and in distant places who are seeking homes.

The water supply of the San Fernando Valley has, in addition to the supply coming from the Owens Valley, the waters of the Colorado River which will arrive through the Metropolitan Water District aqueduct within a few years. This second water supply will make certain that the San Fernando Valley has abundant water even through the periods of drought which regularly strike the snow reserves of our Sierra Madre mountains.

The unique position in which the San Fernando Valley finds itself as a result of this doubly-insured water supply will make possible expanding growth limited only by the amount of land available.

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WHT
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Statement prepared by W. P. Whitsett for presentation to the Board of Directors on Friday, June 12, 1936.

Gentlemen:

To you who are my friends and associates in directing the affairs of The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, I feel that I must make myself clear upon two matters about which I have come to very definite conclusions.

Let me review briefly the experience upon which I base the decisions I shall shortly disclose.

For over twenty-five years I have been giving unsparingly of my time to the water problems of Southern California, realizing that their proper solution must be the stabilizer of present values and the forerunner of future progress.

I was appointed to the Los Angeles Board of Water & Power Commissioners in 1924, and, in close cooperation with the late William Mulholland, the late W. B. Mathews, and Senator Del Valle, helped plan and carry the $2,000,000 Bond Issue voted by the City of Los Angeles in 1925 to start the investigation of the feasibility and cost of bringing water from the Colorado River to the Coastal Plains of Southern California.

In 1929, when the Metropolitan Water District was organized, I was selected Chairman of its Board of Directors. Since then, I have devoted my time almost to the exclusion of personal affairs to the District.

With W. B. Mathews and many of you here present, we planned together and carried the $220,000,000 Bond Issue with

which we are now building the Colorado River Aqueduct.

Many of you remember well the bitter controversy that raged when the date was set for voting such a staggering Bond Issue as $220,000,000.

Our opponents claimed that owing to the depression such an amount would bankrupt the City of Los Angeles; that we did not need the water and that the project could not be completed for the $220,000,000 or within the time allotted. stated

The objection on account of the depression we overcame by showing the vast employment that this project would create; we proved conclusively that water development must precede all other development and be provided in advance of the actual need. The last objection, namely, that the project could not be completed within the sum of money and time stated allotted, I confidently refuted. My close associations with those sponsoring the Owens River Aqueduct had shown me how successfully such work could be done, and it fell to my lot time and again to declare emphatically that the Colorado River Aqueduct could likewise be completed within the $220,000,000. My conviction was based on the long and successful record of Frank E. Weymouth and his great ability for surrounding himself with capable men - and in the further fact that this Board would always stand solidly back of his rigid integrity in employing the best men, in the letting of all contracts, and in the purchase of all materials from the lowest bidders capable of delivering the desired goods.

My faith in Mr. Weymouth's ability has been justified. As contracts were awarded and materials purchased below estimated

costs, I have taken great pride in pointing out and commenting publicly on the savings reported on various occasions from the office of our General Manager.

Then came the hard going in the San Jacinto Tunnel with the necessarily added costs. But I have never wavered in my belief that Mr. Weymouth could finish the project within scheduled cost, for we had these accumulated savings as a back-log - and I strongly favor whatever measures and costs are necessary to bring the work up to schedule. I rejoice in the fine progress we are now making in the East Potrero Tunnel, as well as in the splendid way in which the actual work on all fronts is being handled.

But recently two vital issues have arisen within the Board which to me are of the gravest concern. First is the question of the District's future financial policy. During my absence, a new Finance Committee was created with broad powers contemplating the taking of our bonds out of the hands of the Reconstruction Finance Corporation and disposing of them to private syndicates; and, second, the proposal of several additions to the project which will increase the cost by many millions of dollars.

Regarding the appointment of this Finance Committee, let me say that I have highest regard for and absolute confidence in every member of this Board. But, as a principle, I object to the delegation of extensive authority to any Committee on matters sufficiently vital as to concern every member of the Board. The fact that each 1% saved on interest means $62,000,000 to the

District during the life of the bonds certainly makes the sale of these bonds a matter of vital concern to every Director - for each one of us is responsible to the City we represent. Even though a Committee must come eventually to report to the Board for confirmation of its acts, once negotiations are completed the Board may be placed in a position where it is morally obligated to sustain its Committee. Certainly the three members appointed on the Finance Committee are exceptionally capable, and I would pay tribute to their outstanding ability and integrity. But any Committee on such a Board as ours should be a reference committee and sould only act upon specific and direct instructions from the Board as a whole.

Personally, I feel that the District should continue to finance its project through the Reconstruction Finance Corporation as long as possible or until circumstances are developed which would dictate the wisdom of another arrangement. Since the inauguration of this work I, and other members of this Board, have labored hard and successfully in getting over several loans from the Reconstruction Finance Corporation. The culmination of my desire to get the merits of our project visually before Chairman Jesse Jones was realized on January 2 when, on the proposal I initiated, he spoke over a national hook-up from our Coachella tunnel, praising this gigantic work and expressing his faith in the ability of the District to pay back every dollar to the United States Government as his reason for seeing our project through.

The fact that this project is furnishing employment to

many thousands directly and indirectly throughout the nation would keep it in favor with any program for Recovery. The further fact that the recovery program of the present administration is largely predicated on the lowering of interest rates, would indicate to me that the District would be immeasurably better off with its bonds in the hands of our Government than in the hands of a Syndicate operating for profit. That is my personal opinion. However, I am always willing to abide by and uphold the informed opinion of the majority. The point I am making is that the decision as to who shall hold our bonds should be made only after the careful consideration by the members of this Board, of the findings and recommendations of our very capable Finance Committee. I repeat that I do not approve of giving this Committee broad powers of negotiation and action in this important matter, which was done in my absence and without an opportunity to express my convictions.

The second matter in which I would take issue with some of you is the proposal of additions to this project which would increase the cost by many millions of dollars.

With unanticipated damage suits being filed against the District in large amounts on account of claims being made for lowering water tables and drying up springs; with right-of-way costs mounting and labor and material costs advancing; with possible large expenditures such as most large projects require before satisfactory operation is achieved; we talk about adding a treatment plant, running into several more millions as though it were an absolutely necessary expenditure. Personally, I do

not oppose securing a location for such a plant if there is a safe margin above all costs and capital obligations assumed by the District under the $220,000,000 voted by the citizens for the completion of this project. But I would oppose increasing the tax load by the $6,000,000 involved in the Morris Dam in order to build this treatment plant now.

I believe that much of our Colorado River water in the first stage will be used on garden acres and small ranches where treated water will be more costly and not more beneficial. Some communities may not want treated water at all. Others desiring it may have it by treating it themselves.

It is also proposed to build mains in to the San Diego City reservoir at a cost of several more millions of dollars to the District. While I am in favor of building into Orange County a conduit of sufficient size to supply such parts of Orange County as may join the District before the distributing mains are built, I think we would be setting a dangerous precedent by building into San Diego at the sole cost of the District. If we do this, there will be numerous districts formed, each clamoring for admission with water mains to be built at our expense. Where will this money come from? Are we going to turn down nearby communities later on because our funds have been exhausted in carrying water to more distant points?

Let me make it clear that I am in favor of San Diego becoming an integral part of the District. On account of her water right and the extra carrying capacity which has resulted from the efficiency in the construction of the Aqueduct, San Diego

would be a most logical and valuable addition to the District. You all know that I have worked most consistently to that end; but I feel that San Diego City should contribute a very substantial amount toward the construction of an aqueduct to Hodges Reservoir.

When the San Fernando Valley applied to the City of Los Angeles for Owens Valley Aqueduct water, William Mulholland insisted that we vote a Bond Issue to install our own distributing system and pay a large portion of the cost of the main 6-foot steel trunk line which passed through the Valley on its way to Los Angeles. For this purpose Bond Issues amounting to $2,996,000 were voted by the annexed territory.

Further, I feel that the City of Los Angeles should be paid the amount owed by the District and that it should come out of or be deducted from the $220,000,000 Bond Issue, and that the obligation in connection with the Morris Dam should be dealt with likewise.

I want to be understood as being opposed to adding anything not absolutely necessary to our original plans which will increase the cost of this project to where we cannot make good on our pledges to the people. Namely, that this first unit would be completed and put into successful operation capable of delivering 750 second feet of water at a cost not to exceed $220,000,000.

This to me is a matter of keeping faith with the citizens who accepted our statements, based on estimates of our engineering department, and who look to this Board to see that those promises are fulfilled.

I have gone into these matters at considerable length in order that I may not be misunderstood.

I have arranged my affairs in such a way that I might give unsparingly of my time to continue as your Chairman during the construction period of this project, and I shall be happy to continue to do so as long as we can agree, as we have in the past, on fundamental policies.

The two issues upon which I have herein expressed my opinion are of deep concern to me, and I have placed them frankly before you for consideration during the coming week. Unless most of us can agree on the principles involved, I shall not wish to continue my service feeling out of step with my Board. I ask to have this statement spread upon the Minutes with the request for a resolution next week which will allow me to know definitely how the majority of you feel on these two issues. Also that a copy of this statement be immediately mailed to each of the Directors.

Gentlemen, I have never been a quitter, and I am not seeking an excuse to quit now; but in bringing these policies before you for action it is my hope that I can continue to serve as your Chairman without violating my convictions or my conception of responsibility.

Together we have worked with great personal sacrifice that our communities might profit by our service. Because I believe in you and know that harmonious thought is basic for successful action, I submit this statement and shall await your decision at our next Meeting.

K

W. P. Whitsett, Chairman

WHT
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Presented by
W. P. Whitsett, Chairman
of the Board of Directors of The Metropolitan
Water District of Southern California

at the meeting of

THE SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA ECONOMIC COUNCIL

held June 20, 1936

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To all concerned it is a great satisfaction to know that in practically all sections of Southern California people are awake and earnestly studying their actual and potential relationship to the District. The high-value citrus district of Glendora and Pomona, the industrial coastal sections of Los Angeles, practically all parts of Orange County from the citrus belt to the recreational areas along the Coast, and in the entire territory lying to the south as far as and including San Diego City, have made inquiries concerning membership in the District.

It seems clear to me that the logical expansion of the District should be outward from the Los Angeles Metropolitan area. The simplest initial set-up that presents itself would be the annexation of the Orange and Los Angeles County areas to the District as units forming a compact, consolidated area from which the District could expand as economic reasons dictated. This set-up is based upon the sound general principle that only areas within the District will be permitted to purchase water.

It is obvious that if the District adopts the policy of selling water wherever the demand existed that an equitable distribution of the cost of the project between water rates and taxes would soon become impossible. If the water can be obtained

without coming into the District, there would be very much less incentive for water-sick areas to assume a proper share of the bond burden. Furthermore, an indiscriminate distribution of the water without regard to the interests of the Metropolitan Area, which has made the project possible, would eventually result in building up territory adversely to the interests of those who undertook the project and paid the bills. We must not be placed in the position of sacrificing the long-term interests of Los Angeles and its neighboring cities for the temporary advantage of selling during the difficult first few years of operation of a comparatively small quantity of water to a growing and competitive community a hundred miles distant. Certainly not without a careful balancing of all the economic factors involved.

After the Los Angeles and Orange County areas have been consolidated into the District, careful consideration should first be given to the water needs of those parts of Riverside and San Bernardino Counties lying this side of the mountains.

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I am speaking now of the early years of operation. The cost of the water will diminish with the quantity that is consumed. I have spoken as though all of the costs of the Aqueduct project would be met by the water user. This, of course, will in all probability not be the case, and should not be the case. There must be an equable distribution of the charges for capital, maintenance, and operation as between the water user and the property owner whose values are made possible by the adequate supply.

These are matters over which the District is not primarily concerned. All of its consumers will be either communities or districts to whom the District will act in the capacity of a wholesaler. The distribution of the costs within the member units is a problem to be solved in accordance with the conditions existing in each particular case. The Board of Directors of the District is not in a position and doesn't want to dictate or prescribe the manner in which its members choose to meet their share of the cost of the project. However, as a general policy we recommend lower rates for irrigation purposes since agriculture is basic in the wealth-producing activities in all Southern California. And the person seeking a home and a garden plot must be encouraged if our population is to increase in the future as it has in the past. This is the type of development which has made Southern California what it is today, and it has been the source of prosperity for every business interest in Southern California. It would be an unwise policy to overcharge or place an excessive burden upon the use of water for either small or large scale agricultural purposes.

We must also have in mind the great industrial development which is now taking place and the attraction which low water cost would obviously have for many types of industry. By "water costs" I mean the actual delivery price. This will not in all cases be the same as the actual water cost when the share borne by taxes is taken into consideration. There is a distribution of charges as between taxes and water rates which will be the best for all concerned.

In establishing this correct distribution of charges,

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In all of our studies we must never lose sight of the very definite relationship in Southern California between the cost of water and the value of land. As the price of water goes down, the value of the land on which the water is used is increased, and conversely. From a community standpoint, and aside from the equitable distribution of cost as between all the elements within its confines it makes little difference whether the cost of bringing Colorado River water to the Coastal Plain is paid by water revenue or by taxes. However, with low water rates we would accelerate the upward trend of values and create an ever-expanding base of assessed valuation with a corresponding decrease in the tax rate required to amortize the project.

As I said at the beginning, in these remarks I intended only to supplement and enlarge upon what I presented to your group last December. It has been my hope to provoke in you a sufficient interest in these problems so that you would undertake to make the substantial contribution to their solution which I know you are capable of doing. It is your problem, more so than that of any other group within the community. I would like nothing more than to see you put your mind to this problem and hasten its assured and correct solution.

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It is obvious that if the District adopts the policy of selling water wherever the demand existed that an equitable distribution of the cost of the project between water rates and taxes would soon become impossible. If the water can be obtained without coming into the District, there would be very much less incentive for water-sick areas to assume a proper share of the bond burden. Furthermore, an indiscriminate distribution of the water without regard to the interests of the Metropolitan Area, which has made the project possible, would eventually result in building up territory adversely to the interests of those who undertook the project and paid the bills. We must not be placed in the position of sacrificing the long-term interests of Los Angeles and its neighboring cities for the temporary advantage of selling during the difficult first few years of operation of a comparatively small quantity of water to a growing community and

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It would then seem sound to consider the feasibility of protecting the present wealth and development of Ventura, Santa Barbara, and San Diego whose water supplies are now reported as being inadequate, if not critically insufficient. San Diego represents a unique situation. That city has its own filing and right in the Colorado River. In joining the District it would be bringing additional water and would not be reducing the amount of water available to the local area. On the basis of quality of the construction work on the Aqueduct and the conservative design, engineers are predicting that the carrying capacity of the Aqueduct will be sufficient to take care of San Diego's ~~right~~ Filing.

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SUCCESS BOND

WHT
7

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WHT
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Remarks by W. P. Whitsett
Chairman, Board of Directors,
The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California

32nd Annual State Convention, California
Real Estate Association, October 8, 1936
(8:15 P. M.)

There is nothing constant in the world but CHANGE.

Changing political philosophies, changing religious beliefs, changing social relationships, changing cycles of weather and - above and through all - the changes being wrought as science advances to meet the challenge of natural barriers to human progress - these are the factors with which we of the twentieth century must reckon as we approach the solution of any important problem. We, in this group, assembled to consider the best ways and means of promoting the interests of California and of setting forth her manifold attractions as a place of business and residence as contrasted with other sections, realize that our whole set-up is dependent upon an imported supply of the one necessity of life in which this otherwise particularly blessed section is deficient. I refer to Aqueduct Water that has changed and will continue to change our fertile acres from barren desert into happy homes, prosperous farms, and busy cities.

The building of Boulder Dam has changed the geography of the Southwest.

As if conceived and rushed to completion by prophets who foresaw the need of the immediate future, that greatest of human engineering achievements stands today as an answer to the bewildered cry of thousands of erstwhile farmers of the middlewest

whose homes and fortunes have been dissipated by the SAME vagaries of rainfall which have disintegrated the population of ancient empires and scattered civilizations throughout the pages of history.

Yes, we are in a period of many changes, one of the most significant of which is the entering of a period of CONTROLLED WATER SUPPLY. This new application of scientific knowledge to the control of the basic necessity to all life - animal and vegetable, will lay deep the foundation of immediate future growth and development, permanently seating the Empire of the Pacific here on the coastal plain of Southern California.

There is nothing more true than that like produces like under similar conditions.

The prime factor in the growth of population in Southern California is its pleasant and healthful year-around climate. Leaving its full description to poets and salesmen who know its charms and can describe it much better than I, we agree that our climate is the constant attraction around which we build. For in no other place can we find the varied scenery and climate offered by ocean, valley, mountain and desert in such close proximity as here - where within a few short miles over perfect highways, the restless human family can find whatever condition it craves most at the moment.

You are all familiar with what happened when the Owens River Aqueduct was built. Upon the anticipation of that sure water supply our population doubled between 1900 and 1910. Upon the realization of that added water supply our population doubled

again between 1910 and 1920, and still again between 1920 and 1930.

It is a recognized fact that no matter how meritorious a place or a commodity may be, it must be properly advertised if the world is to know about it. Certainly, California enjoys to an exceptional degree every usual means of advertising - such as our great Chamber of Commerce, our All-Year Club, and our many outstanding newspapers and publications. But more than this, we enjoy UNUSUAL means of world-wide advertising possessed by no other community. I refer to the motion picture which through its many appeals to popular fancy focuses the eyes of the world on our Hollywood. And more than that, every fruit stand in America with its lure of Sunkist fruit and fresh, green vegetables proclaims throughout snow-bound countries, a land of perpetual productivity, and the cans stacked high in every grocery store bear labels that invite attention to California.

Further still, we enjoy the advertising given by increasing thousands of visitors who come to us by the greatly augmented means of travel - airways, transcontinental highways, and air-cooled trains, as well as the delightful cruise through the Panama Canal which makes us a neighbor to the Atlantic Coast.

Yes, California has exceptional attractions and the world knows about them. But what peculiar circumstances of the present era of change are working in our favor?

All great migrations of people are preceded by drastic conditions. The uprooting of home ties and the breaking up of business relations and the freezing up of available funds with

which to move about have marked the recent years of depression. The devastating droughts that have ruined thousands of acres in the middlewest have made people water-conscious as never before. They are looking for new homes in a friendly climate where they may live and plant their crops with reasonable security against the vagaries of Nature. Here, alone, where the waters of the mighty Colorado have been harnessed and are being brought in to meet the demands of domestic, agricultural, and industrial use, can they find the solution to their problem. During the years since 1930, this potential migration has been dammed up behind a wall of frozen assets which is now melting away, opening the flood-gates of the greatest migration of home-seekers which has ever been experienced in American history.

It requires little imagination to realize the result of completing the Colorado River Aqueduct which will bring in almost four times the amount of water that is supplied by the Owens River Aqueduct which increased our population from 350,000 in 1910 to 1,350,000 in 1936. Basing our claims upon past experience and with the added impetus of extraordinary advertising media and circumstances throughout drought-ridden states that compel attention to our controlled water supply, we have every right to expect a proportionate increase in wealth and population. The economic fundamentals are all present; namely, climate, water and cheap hydro-electric power. The latter - hydro-electric power, which is a by-product of the great water-conservation at Boulder Dam, is inviting industry here - and this same industry means more homes and more farms to supply them with food. With all the

boasted achievements of our present civilization man is still a very primitive creature. His first need is, has always been, and will always be the same, FOOD! FOOD! Where do we get it? How good is it? How much does it cost? From the Nomadic tribes of Arabia who roam with their flocks from season to season in search of grass, to the modern American who lives in the city apartment with its highly mechanized equipment, the elemental question is the same. "How well can we eat and how much does it cost?" Medical science is now telling our people that the fresher their food supply, the higher the rate of energy and health produced therefrom. With such facts being impressed upon them, and the general knowledge of the curative properties of sunshine and moderate climate, those who for any reason contemplate a change of residence will naturally seek a home where they can live out-of-doors and enjoy bountiful fresh food at reasonable cost.

If it were not for the additional water supply being brought in by the Colorado River Aqueduct, we would naturally hesitate to broadcast to the world our invitation to come and make homes here. Knowing the diminishing water reserves of many of our most fertile valleys, we could not conscientiously advise home-seekers of means and experience to come here in unlimited numbers, unless we knew that ever increasing shortage of water could be supplied from this new source.

Naturally, we turn for exemplification of our beliefs to the place with which we are personally most familiar. It happens that I cast my lot in the San Fernando Valley when it was a desert in 1910. On the prospect of an assured water supply,

I was able to build my home and induce others to come in sufficient numbers to build a town. All of you know what is happening in that great Valley today. Homes on garden acres are being built by the thousand with the result that a number of prosperous towns are growing as shopping centers to meet the requirements of those who enjoy the freedom, security, and independence of the garden home. Throughout California, that same story has been repeated over and over, wherever there was water supply to meet the demands of the settlers.

Heretofore, however, many of our new residents, coming from regions of abundant rainfall, have taken water for granted. They have looked upon the luxurious growth of our cultivated areas and thought that with energy and proper expenditure of time and money they could do likewise on whatever land they purchased. But the recent droughts have made them wise. They now look on our parched brown hills, and then to the verdant gardens, and ask, "How is this miracle accomplished?" And having read of the tragedies of insufficient rainfall, if they have not actually experienced them, they will not invest until they are satisfied that they are in a community secure from water shortage.

Yes, California is on the threshold of the destiny that is hers by virtue of her climate and location here on the Pacific, where East meets West. The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, comprised of the thirteen forward-looking cities of the Coastal Plain of Anaheim, Beverly Hills, Burbank, Compton, Fullerton, Glendale, Long Beach, Los Angeles, Pasadena, San Marino, Santa Ana, Santa Monica, and Torrance, who were brave

enough to assume the obligation for building the Colorado River Aqueduct has insured our citizens against the only enemy that would have limited our further growth. For in desert places unsupported by an ample controlled water supply, dwindling water reserves have always brought in the creeping paralysis of the desert with investments reduced to dust.

With knowledge of the past and faith in the future, we are building a water system in keeping with our potentialities. While fulfilling a practical need, the Aqueduct will mark with distinction our citizens as possessed of courage, energy, and vision. For those outside the District who are content with facing only present needs, I would remind you of truth, proven by history, that "Without vision, the people perish."

WHT
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LOS ANGELES AS A PART OF
THE METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

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In considering the subject of Los Angeles and its benefits and responsibilities as a part of the Metropolitan Water District, it is necessary to take into account facts concerning, first, the history of the District, second, the present status of the District's construction and financial program and, third, steps that henceforth should be taken in order properly to protect the interests of Los Angeles and all other cities in the District.

HISTORY

The Colorado River Aqueduct project was conceived and set under way by the responsible engineers and commissioners of the Department of Water and Power of the City of Los Angeles in 1923, five years prior to the establishment of The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California. At that time the officers of the Department of Water and Power came to the realization that steps must be taken to provide an additional water supply for Los Angeles to supplement the water that would be made available through the fullest possible development of the Owens River and Mono Basin supplies.

Los Angeles Starts Aqueduct Project

Acting on authority granted by the Board of Water and

Power Commissioners, William Mulholland, then Chief Engineer of the Water Bureau, set under way in October, 1923, the first surveys and studies on the Colorado River Aqueduct project. In 1925, on the recommendation of the Department of Water and Power, the people of Los Angeles authorized a bond issue of $2,000,000 to finance the continuation of engineering studies and surveys on the Colorado River Aqueduct. As the City of Los Angeles continued to carry forward its engineering plans for the Colorado River Aqueduct, a number of other municipalities located on the South Coastal Plain expressed the desire to participate in this project. Legislation that would enable noncontiguous municipalities legally to form a District for the purpose of financing, building and operating such a water project was drafted by officials of the Department of Water and Power, and was adopted by the State Legislature in 1927. Elections were called for the purpose of establishing the District, and eleven cities, including Los Angeles, voted to become parts of the District. The people of Los Angeles voted to join the District by the majority of seven to one. Since that time, the number of cities in the District has increased to thirteen.

District Takes Over Project

All engineering data acquired by the Department of Water and Power was taken over by the District with the understanding that the Department would be compensated for monies thus expended. In compliance with this agreement, the District has assumed the carrying charges on the $2,000,000 bond issue, and more recently

has authorized the payment in cash to the Department of $903,000 prior to July 1, 1937, as compensation in full for other monies expended by the Department and to cover accrued interest on certain amounts advanced by the Department.

On September 29, 1931, the people of Los Angeles and the other cities in the District voted a bond issue of $220,000,000 to build the Colorado River Aqueduct. In Los Angeles the majority given this bond issue was in the ratio of five to one. The bond issue was voted following eight years of intensive and continuous engineering studies and the fullest possible consideration and public discussion of the entire project.

Relation to Mono Basin Development

Attention should be drawn to the fact that in May, 1930, the people of Los Angeles had approved a bond issue of $38,000,000, a part of which, it was expressly stated, was to be used to finance the development of the Mono Basin water supply. This bond issue was not submitted to take the place of the Colorado River Aqueduct supply, but as a means of completing the development of the City's existing Owens River system. That the people of Los Angeles never considered the Mono Basin water as a substitute for Colorado River water is clearly demonstrated by the fact that the voters, in September, 1931, one year after approving the Mono Basin development, also gave their endorsement, by a ratio of five to one, to the $220,000,000 Colorado River Aqueduct bond issue.

In December, 1932, construction work on the Colorado River Aqueduct was set under way. Work on the Mono Basin development was started in the spring of 1934, somewhat more than a year

later.

Relation to Boulder Dam

It was the evidence that Colorado River water is required to meet the needs of Los Angeles and other Southern California cities that finally persuaded Congress to authorize construction of Boulder Dam. The first Boulder Dam bill was introduced in Congress in 1922. It sought to authorize a high dam to provide opportunity for the generation of hydroelectric energy and flood protection for Imperial Valley. Hostile interests declared the bill represented an attempt to get the Federal Government to finance a public power generating project for the City of Los Angeles. These interests offered the compromise of a low flood control dam with small opportunity for power development. Congressmen failed to extend their support to the high dam bill, and it remained in committee files, without action. Then the Colorado River Aqueduct project was launched, and it was demonstrated that a high Boulder Dam was essential to the providing of an adequate water supply for Los Angeles and other Southern California cities. This basic need for water was not ignored by Congress, and in 1928, after the California Legislature in 1927 had adopted the Metropolitan Water District Act, Congress adopted the Boulder Dam bill.

The Boulder Dam bill provided that the Secretary of the Interior should not be empowered to commence construction of the dam until he held firm contracts for the sale of sufficient Boulder Dam power to guarantee the repayment of the cost of the dam, with interest, within 50 years. Authority for the Secretary

to start construction work was given when the Metropolitan Water District, the City of Los Angeles and the Southern California Edison Company signed power purchase contracts with the Government. The District, with its agreement to purchase 36 per cent of the firm Boulder Dam power and the first right to all of the secondary power, was the largest single allottee of electric energy from the dam.

PROGRESS OF AQUEDUCT WORK

On July 1, 1936, construction work on the Aqueduct was 45 per cent completed. Of the 108 miles of tunnels on the system, 98 miles had been excavated and 50 miles had been concrete lined. Of the 62 miles of canals, 55 miles had been excavated and 52 had been completed; of the 52 miles of covered conduit, 30 had been completed, and of the 26 miles of siphons, 20 miles had been completed. Work on Parker Dam was under way with the diversion tunnels scheduled to be completed on August 10. Work on Cajalco Dam was approximately 38 per cent completed. Construction of four of the five pumping stations was in progress; erection of the power transmission line from Boulder Dam was 45 per cent completed, and 42 miles of distribution mains between Cajalco reservoir and Los Angeles were being installed.

Financial Status

Commitments of the District, as of July 15, 1936, amount to $168,400,000. These commitments cover contracts awarded for materials, equipment and construction work. Construction work accomplished to the same date, including preliminary costs and

Morris Dam, totaled $96,900,000. Bonds to the amount of $91,000,000 had been sold up to July 15.

In the light of work completed and contract commitments now in effect, it is evident that the Aqueduct will be completed within the original estimate.

BENEFITS AND FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

Officials of the City of Los Angeles at the time the Colorado River Aqueduct project was first undertaken and the officers of the District today recognize the metropolitan area of the Southern California Coastal Plain as an economic unit. The need for additional water appears to be more acute in some sections of this area than in others, but it is recognized that all sections, developed and susceptible of development, are faced alike with diminishing local water supplies. It is also recognized that no isolated section, even though it might enjoy temporarily a sufficient water supply, could long continue to prosper and grow if other and neighboring sections suffered heavy losses by reason of a water shortage. Accordingly, the Colorado River Aqueduct was designed to meet the reasonable needs of this entire metropolitan area. It is only natural that the initial responsibility of providing such a water supply should be assumed by those centers of population and wealth capable of undertaking such a project. Thus it was that the cities which assumed the burden of launching the aqueduct work include the ten larger communities of Los Angeles County and the three larger municipalities in Orange County.

With construction work on the Aqueduct now in progress,

the time has arrived when the District should be expanded to permit the inclusion of all sections in this metropolitan area which need the water and, especially those sections which stand in urgent and immediate need. Thus far, all municipalities in the District have shared equitably in its financial obligations, and it is the avowed policy of the Board of Directors of the District that the same equitable distribution of financial obligations is to be maintained when the Aqueduct is placed in operation.

Expansion of District Benefits All

Sections which need additional water will reap an immediate and permanent advantage by joining the District at this time. By the same token, cities now in the District should welcome the proper expansion of the District area for the reason that it will thereby extend the base upon which will rest the financial obligations of the District and, accordingly, will reduce the individual responsibility of each member city.

For example: When the District was organized with eleven member cities, Los Angeles represented 81 per cent of the assessed valuation of the entire District and, therefore, Los Angeles bore 81 per cent of the financial responsibility of the District. This year, with thirteen cities in the District, Los Angeles represents 72 per cent of the total assessed valuation, and its financial responsibility has been reduced accordingly.

For the year 1935-36 the assessed valuation of the District is $1,783,000,000. By including within the District other Coastal Plain areas as could practicably and economically

be served by the Aqueduct, the assessed valuation of the District would be increased to $2,600,000,000, on the basis of present assessed valuations.

This increased assessed valuation brought about by the annexation of additional territory automatically would reduce Los Angeles' share of financial responsibility from the present 72 per cent to about 50 per cent.

It is evident, therefore, that the proper expansion of the District's area will be beneficial to Los Angeles and other cities now in the District, as well as to the sections thus permitted to join the District. Such additions of new territory, however, could be brought about only on the basis of an equitable distribution of Aqueduct charges among the parts of the District.

Operation and Maintenance Costs

Aqueduct costs to be met following the completion of the system are, first, carrying charges on outstanding District bonds and, second, operation and maintenance expense on the Aqueduct.

Practically all of the Aqueduct's operation and maintenance costs in the early years of operation actually are fixed charges. These charges will rest against the District regardless of whether or not water is carried by the Aqueduct.

For the first year of the Aqueduct's operation, fixed charges for operation and maintenance will amount to approximately $3,360,000. These charges include $790,000 for operation, administration, taxes, insurance, etc; $390,000 for depreciation and reserves; $2,180,000 for minimum Boulder Dam power charges.

These fixed power charges are practically doubled by the fourth year of operation, thus making a 50 per cent increase in the District's total fixed obligations for operation and maintenance.

The cost of delivering 400 second feet of Colorado River water into the Coastal Plain would amount to approximately $3,460,000, or only $100,000 more than the minimum fixed charges on account of operation and maintenance. Five hundred second feet of water can be delivered by the Aqueduct at an operating and maintenance cost of $3,625,000 for the first year, an amount only $265,000 greater than the fixed minimun of operation and maintenance costs.

Thus, it is evident that it is distinctly to the advantage of Los Angeles and all member cities to bring into the District additional water consuming territory during the early years of operation.

It appears to be self-evident that the burden of meeting fixed operation and maintenance charges cannot be shifted from that portion of the District which now represents 72 per cent of the assessed valuation to other portions which all together represent only 28 per cent. Such fixed charges, as a matter of actual practice, cannot be absorbed by those portions of the District which represent only 28 per cent of its valuation.

Proper Distribution of Benefits and Costs

Annexation of additional territory needing and ready to consume considerable quantities of Colorado River water, however, will provide revenues to offset operation and maintenance charges

and, at the same time, will serve to reduce the financial obligation of present member cities, including Los Angeles.

For the past several months active negotiations have been under way looking toward the use of Aqueduct water by highly developed urbane and horticultural areas located in the metropolitan area but not now included in the District.

The areas and cities which have within the last year communicated with the District expressing interest in the proposition of securing a share of Colorado River Aqueduct water include the Foothill area of 80,000 acres from Glendora to Upland, including approximately 32,000 acres of highly developed citrus land and the communities of Pomona, Ontario, Upland, Claremont, San Dimas, La Verne, and Glendora; Orange County Water District, including about 200,000 acres of agricultural land; the South Coast Water District of Orange County, including the city of Laguna; territory between Santa Ana and San Juan Capistrano, including El Toro and vicinity; Hermosa Beach and vicinity; San Diego and numerous communities along the coast line in San Diego County, including San Clemente; Elsinore and adjacent irrigated areas. In addition, large areas in Ventura County, including the Simi Valley, are giving serious consideration to obtaining a large water supply from an outside source.

Several conferences have been held between representatives of these areas and a committee of the District's Board of Directors. In every instance, these conferences have reached the stage of a formal request on the part of the outside communities for a cost figure on Aqueduct water. The District is now giving serious consideration to these many requests for information concerning Colorado River water.

Presented by
W. P. Whitsett, Chairman
of the Board of Directors of The Metropolitan
Water District of Southern California

at the meeting of

THE SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA ECONOMIC COUNCIL

held June 20, 1936

Gentlemen: I appreciate this opportunity to say a word about the progress being made by The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California. At your meeting last December I had the privilege of presenting an outline of the more important economic aspects of the project. At this time I only intend to emphasize and supplement some of the points which were presented to you on the previous occasion.

The construction of the Aqueduct is proceeding in a highly satisfactory manner, both as to the rate of progress and as to cost. A solution of the tangible problems having to do with forces and materials is in good hands. It is the intangible economic and social problems which are at present receiving our greatest attention. As the project nears completion, we are more concerned with the questions relating to the economic distribution of the water and the balancing of our budget.

To all concerned it is a great satisfaction to know that in practically all sections of Southern California people are awake and earnestly studying their actual and potential relationship to the District. The high-value citrus district of Glendora and Pomona, the industrial coastal sections of Los Angeles, practically all parts of Orange County from the citrus belt to the recreational areas along the Coast, and in the entire territory lying to the south as far as and including San Diego City, have made inquiries concerning membership in the District.

It seems clear to me that the logical expansion of the District should be outward from the Los Angeles Metropolitan area. The simplest initial set-up that presents itself would be the annexation of the Orange and Los Angeles County areas to the District as units forming a compact, consolidated area from which the District could expand as economic reasons dictated. This set-up is based upon the sound general principle that only areas within the District will be permitted to purchase water.

It is obvious that if the District adopts the policy of selling water wherever the demand existed that an equitable distribution of the cost of the project between water rates and taxes would soon become impossible. If the water can be obtained

without coming into the District, there would be very much less incentive for water-sick areas to assume a proper share of the bond burden. Furthermore, an indiscriminate distribution of the water without regard to the interests of the Metropolitan Area, which has made the project possible, would eventually result in building up territory adversely to the interests of those who undertook the project and paid the bills. We must not be placed in the position of sacrificing the long-term interests of Los Angeles and its neighboring cities for the temporary advantage of selling during the difficult first few years of operation of a comparatively small quantity of water to a growing and competitive community a hundred miles distant. Certainly not without a careful balancing of all the economic factors involved.

After the Los Angeles and Orange County areas have been consolidated into the District, careful consideration should first be given to the water needs of those parts of Riverside and San Bernardino Counties lying this side of the mountains.

It would then seem sound to consider the feasibility of protecting the present wealth and development of Ventura, Santa Barbara, and San Diego whose water supplies are now reported as being inadequate, if not critically insufficient. San Diego represents a unique situation. That city has its own filing and right in the Colorado River. In joining the District it would be bringing additional water and would not be reducing the amount of water available to the local area. On the basis of quality of the construction work on the Aqueduct and the conservative design, engineers are predicting that the carrying capacity of the Aqueduct will be sufficient to take care of San Diego's right.

In summary the policy is proposed that the Metropolitan Water District expand by the annexation of territory progressively outward from the Los Angeles Metropolitan Area to the extent that water is available, giving special consideration to sustaining communities and areas already highly developed.

In all of the areas now considering annexation, committees are engaged in economic study of the problems involved. The first concern, of course, is water under any circumstances. Having not yet entirely exhausted their diminishing reserves, they are naturally analyzing the problem in terms of their respective local situations. They want to know what it is going to cost and the manner in which they can best protect their interests. Some feel that their advantage lies in the delaying annexation to the District as long as possible. The majority, I believe, appreciate the fact that great advantages exist in obtaining membership as soon as possible. When distribution lines have been built and water begins to flow within the District, they realize that their opportunity to have a voice in the location of lines and in the policies relating to the selling of water will have to a large extent been lost.

As a fundamental proposition, we can say that land in Southern California is valueless without a dependable water supply. In other words, it is the water which places the real and lasting value upon the land. The question naturally arises as to what price can be paid for water to maintain or build up a community development. One could say as an extreme case that one could afford to pay almost any price short of confiscation of his property in order to protect his water supply. However, under the intense competition which exists today a high water cost is a serious handicap to any community regardless of its natural advantages. The cost of the Aqueduct water on a sound economic basis can be made entirely reasonable and not in excess of the average paid by the Metropolitan centers throughout the United States.

I am speaking now of the early years of operation. The cost of the water will diminish with the quantity that is consumed. I have spoken as though all of the costs of the Aqueduct project would be met by the water user. This, of course, will in all probability not be the case, and should not be the case. There must be an equable distribution of the charges for capital, maintenance, and operation as between the water user and the property owner whose values are made possible by the adequate supply.

These are matters over which the District is not primarily concerned. All of its consumers will be either communities or districts to whom the District will act in the capacity of a wholesaler. The distribution of the costs within the member units is a problem to be solved in accordance with the conditions existing in each particular case. The Board of Directors of the District is not in a position and doesn't want to dictate or prescribe the manner in which its members choose to meet their share of the cost of the project. However, as a general policy we recommend lower rates for irrigation purposes since agriculture is basic in the wealth-producing activities in all Southern California. And the person seeking a home and a garden plot must be encouraged if our population is to increase in the future as it has in the past. This is the type of development which has made Southern California what it is today, and it has been the source of prosperity for every business interest in Southern California. It would be an unwise policy to overcharge or place an excessive burden upon the use of water for either small or large scale agricultural purposes.

We must also have in mind the great industrial development which is now taking place and the attraction which low water cost would obviously have for many types of industry. By "water costs" I mean the actual delivery price. This will not in all cases be the same as the actual water cost when the share borne by taxes is taken into consideration. There is a distribution of charges as between taxes and water rates which will be the best for all concerned.

In establishing this correct distribution of charges,

the best and most experienced business brains of the community must be consulted. The final answer to the whole problem, of course, is the building up of the wealth and the population of our communities as rapidly as possible, thereby reducing the cost of water by increasing our tax base and reducing the unit cost of operating the Aqueduct.

In all of our studies we must never lose sight of the very definite relationship in Southern California between the cost of water and the value of land. As the price of water goes down, the value of the land on which the water is used is increased, and conversely. From a community standpoint, and aside from the equitable distribution of cost as between all the elements within its confines it makes little difference whether the cost of bringing Colorado River water to the Coastal Plain is paid by water revenue or by taxes. However, with low water rates we would accelerate the upward trend of values and create an ever-expanding base of assessed valuation with a corresponding decrease in the tax rate required to amortize the project.

As I said at the beginning, in these remarks I intended only to supplement and enlarge upon what I presented to your group last December. It has been my hope to provoke in you a sufficient interest in these problems so that you would undertake to make the substantial contribution to their solution which I know you are capable of doing. It is your problem, more so than that of any other group within the community. I would like nothing more than to see you put your mind to this problem and hasten its assured and correct solution.

WHT
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Memorandum Presented to the
WATER AND POWER RESOURCES COMMITTEE
of the Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce

by W. P. WHITSETT

November 16, 1937

Gentlemen: I want to present on behalf of the Board of Directors of The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California the following considerations with regard to the proposal of the Power Bureau concerning the purchase of power originally allocated to the District, and for which the District will probably not have a use during its early years of operation.

As you know, the Power Bureau has made an offer to purchase power at the rate of one-half mill per kilowatt hour which will, under the present set-up, cost the District 1.63 mills per kilowatt hour. Hearings on this proposal are now under consideration before the Secretary of the Interior at Washington.

I do not propose to get into the legal complexities of the question. We have attorneys and engineers that are competent to do that. I will confine myself to broad economic fundamentals from the standpoint of the taxpayer and business man.

Back in 1930, when the allocations for power were made, the District was granted a right to 36% of the firm power and certain other rights and privileges. This amount of power was obviously in excess of what the District would be able to put to use during the early years of operation, but less than

its later probable requirements. But in order to get Boulder Dam started, it was necessary for the District to make a firm contract, which we did.

Proposals now made by the Power Bureau are to purchase the power at less than half its cost to the District, the District having to make up to the Federal Government the deficit.

Considering this proposal, I want first to emphasize the character of the District. The District is composed of thirteen cities, twelve in addition to Los Angeles. They are distributed throughout the Coastal Plain from Santa Ana in Orange County to Santa Monica. Each one here is aware of the friction which went on for many years between Los Angeles and the outlying communities. The merits of the causes of disagreement, I am not prepared to discuss, but I will emphasize that the Metropolitan Water District, through its eight years of existence, has functioned in complete harmony and accord. There has been no issue in these years in which Los Angeles and the other member cities of the District were not able to work out to their mutual satisfaction.

Los Angeles members of the Board of Directors are determined that this good feeling and spirit of cooperation shall not be interrupted but shall continue to prevail.

In this proposal of the Power Bureau, we are brought face to face with a situation in which the smaller cities are asked to assume a burden in favor of Los Angeles, in fact, amounts to a subsidy on their part to the Los Angeles City Power Bureau.

If Southern California had been treated with the same consideration that was accorded the other large projects inaugurated by the Federal Government, this question of power rates need never have arisen. If Boulder Dam had been constructed on the same basis as the projects of the Tennessee Valley Authority, the Mississippi Flood Control Program, the Fort Peck Dam, the Grand Coulee Dam, and the Bonneville Dam, such power prices as offered by the Power Bureau would probably have been entirely reasonable. Of all these projects, the Boulder Dam and its related projects were the only ones requiring complete amortization at interest rates in excess of what the Federal Government pays for the money loaned. It is the only project without direct grants or financial concessions.

Rather than to have had this conflict of interest between the District and the Power Bureau, a concerted effort by these agencies should have been made to obtain from the Federal Government the same treatment as accorded to other similar projects. Steps have been taken to this end, but so far unsuccessfully. Our efforts at present should be directed to this end rather than to dissipate our energies in internal friction or in endeavoring to obtain an advantage at the expense of the others.

The Power Bureau has stated emphatically that unless it obtains a concession in power rates at the expense of the District, it will abandon the construction of a third power line to Boulder Dam. Our engineers advise us after an intensive study

of the situation that it would be much more economical for the Power Bureau to build a third line than to construct additional steam capacity in Southern California. This is a highly technical question, but I believe the conclusion of our engineers is correct. Even if it were not so, I doubt whether the City of Los Angeles would be justified from other considerations in building another steam plant.

With rapid depletions of our gas reserves, so important and necessary in the continued industrial development of Southern California, it would be exceedingly unwise to put further demands upon them when hydroelectric energy is available at Boulder Dam. I am informed that a steam plant such as the city proposes would consume on the average of 900,000 barrels of oil or its equivalent annually. This would amount to 45,000,000 barrels in 50 years. Such a demand would sooner or later be reflected in increased costs of gas, oil, and electric power to Southern California consumers.

From the sentiment expressed by members of our Board, I believe that they will definitely oppose any sale of its power at Boulder Dam at less than the amount it costs the District.

The amount which the District stands to save by selling its power as proposed by the Power Bureau represents a comparatively small sum. Rather than enter into such an agreement, the District would be justified in using the power to pump large quantities of water over to the Coastal Plain and dispose of it to its members at little or possibly no cost. From a business standpoint,

I believe the conclusion is justified that the cost of delivering very cheap water would be more than offset by the increase in valuations and the growth of industry and agriculture.

We are now working on an intensive program of consolidating Los Angeles and Orange Counties into one continuous area within the Metropolitan Water District. With very cheap water, this move would be facilitated. In any event, it is inevitable.

We are at present experiencing one of the driest periods in the history of Southern California. Engineers inform us that the present period since last May has not been exceeded in dryness in fifty or sixty years. In the face of such circumstances, the District is not justified for a very nominal annual saving in releasing any of its power, even temporarily, unless it can do so at cost.

The purpose of the Board of Directors of the District is very definite. It is willing to cooperate with the Power Bureau of the City of Los Angeles if it can do so on a strictly economic basis and without any penalty on any of its member cities. We believe that it is very definitely and materially to the advantage of the Power Bureau to build its third transmission line in order to take full advantage of all power, both primary and secondary, available at Boulder Dam. We do not believe that the construction of additional steam generating plants is justified or to the best interests of Los Angeles and Southern California.

We believe that all agencies in Southern California

should unite in the determined effort to obtain from the Federal Government a readjustment of the Boulder Power Contracts which would be fair to this area in comparison with what advantages and benefits are being accorded to other areas. We ask nothing more than we are justly entitled to in accordance with what the Federal Government is doing elsewhere. Above all, we are determined that nothing shall be permitted to transpire which will in any way jeopardize the harmonious relationship which exists between the cities comprising the Metropolitan Water District. To this end we respectfully ask your cooperation and support.

WHT
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Remarks by W. P. Whitsett, Chairman of the Board of Directors of The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, on the occasion of the presentation to The Honorable Jesse H. Jones of a memento on behalf of the Board of Directors of the District.
August 11, 1939

Mr. Toastmaster, Ladies and Gentlemen:

For the past ten years, the foremost problem in America has been to find useful employment for millions of our citizens who were victims of an economic chaos, unprecedented in our history.

Our honor guest today, as Chairman of the Reconstruction Finance Corporation during this period, has made possible honest, creative work for hundreds of thousands of men on constructive, self-liquidating projects which will stand as monuments to his wisdom and ability in the administration of public funds. Funds secured by interest-bearing bonds which are an asset to our national treasury.

One of the largest of the projects financed by loans from the Reconstruction Finance Corporation is our Colorado River Aqueduct.

During the construction of this greatest water supply system in the World, we have given employment directly to a total of 35,000 men. And in the manufacture of about 70,000 carloads of material, equipment and supplies, brought from all parts of this Nation, we have furnished employment to tens of thousands of other workers.

The water brought to the coastal plain by this Aqueduct - now nearly completed, will make possible the continuing development of our cities, creating additional employment and opportunity for generations to come.

Mr. Jones, in recognition of your public service as a great administrator and practical statesman, the Board of Directors of The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California wish to present this token of appreciation -

A vase - to hold water, - water symbolic of that stream which we will bring to the Golden Cities through our great Aqueduct; and flowers, - flowers symbolic of the beauty and productivity made possible to Southern California by that Aqueduct.

The vase bears this inscription -

HONORABLE JESSE H. JONES
GREAT ADMINISTRATOR AND PRACTICAL STATESMAN
WHOSE LASTING PUBLIC SERVICE, NATIONWIDE AND
TO CALIFORNIA, IS GRATEFULLY APPRECIATED.
PRESENTED BY
BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF
THE METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT
OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA
AUGUST 11, 1939
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

WHT
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The future of Southern California in the light of observations of Eastern Metropolitan Cities

by
W. P. Whitsett
Chairman, Board of Directors of
The Metropolitan Water District
of Southern California

It is always good to come home. But after a complete tour of these United States - relaxing in the languorous atmosphere of tropical Florida, visiting the high spots of the Eastern Seaboard, motoring through historic New England, taking in the Fairs at New York and San Francisco, and points between - I am more convinced than ever before that the most fortunate man in America is the man who comes home to Southern California.

This statement is not prompted by the natural way one feels for one's home - nor by an over-developed sense of loyalty - nor yet by a desire to uphold our reputation as boosters. Rather, it is made in calm deliberation after careful observation of ALL conditions wherever I have traveled - observations which have made me realize how many sections of our country are outmoded in architecture and transportation facilities - how many of our great cities are top-heavy with intricate devices in the attempt to adapt the conditions of the slow and simple village blacksmith days to our fast and complicated motor age - and how, of all the metropolitan areas in this great land, that of Los Angeles is best designed to meet the requirements of that fabulous "World of Tomorrow," so ably and glamorously depicted at the New York World's Fair.

We are in an era of rapid and drastic change - of inventions so numerous and diverse that, for one of my conservative years and ideas, to see them all combined and demonstrated as at our World's Fairs, is like the awakening of Rip Van Winkle after his twenty-years' sleep in those peaceful hills beside the quiet-flowing Hudson.

One exhibit in particular has "stolen the show" in New York. It is that of General Motors in which one tours across the United States of 1960 - complete in diorama and seen from a moving platform while explanations of each scene come through an individual speaker beside your comfortable chair.

In this vivid portrayal of the country twenty years hence, rapid transportation on fool-proof highways is the point of emphasis. No longer are cities crowded or traffic congested. The City of 1960 is spread out over a large area - with parks and trees, playgrounds and great amusement centers with ample parking space for cars that travel at 100 miles per hour over divided, many-laned highways with no left-hand turns or grade crossings. These arterial highways are fed by an

inflow from side roads so designed as not to slow down cars on the main thoroughfare. Likewise, motor cars leave the arterial highway without interference with the main line of traffic. So perfectly has this ideal system of motor transportation been worked out to combine speed and safety, that the suburban home of tomorrow may enjoy every convenience of the city without that dreadful spectre of the "traffic jam" which today wears our nerves and threatens our lives.

"But," you may say, "that is an artist's portrayal of an engineer's dream." True, that is what I saw in actuality. And in my knowledge of the physical limitations of many of our leading cities today, I realized how impossible it would be for them to realize that dream. But, this is the point I want to make clear. It is - that our own Los Angeles, spread out as it is over 450 square miles, and the contiguous cities of this great metropolitan area with over 600,000 adjoining undeveloped acres, are made to order for the development of a highway system which will fit us perfectly into that ideal "World of Tomorrow."

It is that "World of Tomorrow" for which in part we have built the Colorado River Aqueduct - that community of the future here in Southern California of millions of people who may live in God's sunshine on Nature's fresh foods amid serene surroundings with close proximity to all of the art, culture, and commercial advantages of modern civilization.

On my recent visit to New York for the purpose of getting a first-hand picture of transportation facilities, I hired an automobile and drove over a thousand miles, taking in the main highways in and about New York and Boston. It was most interesting to see the splendid way these two cities have worked out their main arterial highways to avoid congestion and facilitate speed and safety. New York particularly has done a magnificent job within the limitations of its site in developing a system of parkways leading to and from principal suburbs and connecting these through the Hendrick Hudson and East River Drives with the very heart of the City. The Triborough Bridge connecting Queens, the Bronx and Manhattan by many-laned boulevards over intricate winding bridges is a masterpiece of engineering. This ingenious highway system, augmented by subways, elevated, ferries and boats makes possible the commutation of millions who go daily from Westchester, Long Island and Jersey to office and factory in New York. But one trip, by any of these ways of transportation on a hot summer day, will convince the thoughtful observer that the limit of population concentration in this region has been reached. To pass miles of apartment houses with pale women and fragile

children leaning out of windows to get a breath of air - air so full of smoke and dust that it envelops the city in a cloud visible for many miles distant as one approaches New York from the open sea; to listen to the constant rumble of traffic that jars nerves until the finer senses are dulled; to travel block after block with never a sprig of green to please the eye - all this is bound to impress one with the fact that the alert youth, with the will and ability to better his conditions, will never remain in such surroundings. His grandfather sighed wistfully as he heard of the spacious green acres of fine estates on the Hudson - but they were only for the wealthy!

The youth today knows it is possible to have a modern bungalow with a garden acre where life can be lived fully and richly with moderate means, and he knows he does not have to endure the confinement of the city to enjoy the advantages his grandfather sought there. Modern devices have given to the suburban, and even the rural home, light, automatic heat and all the electrical gadgets which, a few years ago, made the apartment so desirable. The radio has abolished that loneliness and isolation once the bug-a-boo of the country. The automobile has given the country boy that sense of freedom and speed he once sought in the city. And the movie has carried to every community center the glamor which once belonged to Broadway alone. All these innovations have completely changed our American mode of life. The conditions which compelled great masses of people to huddle together in congested areas in order to put themselves in contact with the rest of the world no longer exist. There is today no sane reason for such concentration of population as built New York and similar cities.

Furthermore, the youth with initiative and ability knows from the education he was compelled to take and from the newspapers he peddles on busy streets, that he need not be snowbound all winter - nor swelter in a crowded tenement all summer. He has heard a lot about this magic land of California with its friendly year-around climate and he is going to see and know it for himself. He belongs to the world of tomorrow and he will recognize Southern California as the best place in which to make that world come true.

It is up to us to clean up the slums we have (and they are so small compared with those in other cities of our size), convert them into parks to beautify our city and into auto parking places which will maintain the values of our best downtown districts. It is up to us to work out here in Southern California our traffic problems to include not only our present cities, but to make easily and safely accessible

those 600,000 acres which can be developed with the additional supply of water which the Colorado River Aqueduct will soon deliver. With abundant water and an Al system of highways, we will invite the building of workmen's homes on garden acres where production for use is practical, and of gentlemen's estates where families may live as in the English countryside or on the Hudson, with easy access to the city. Naturally, we must preserve those metropolitan values created by the foresight and patience of our leaders. This can best be done by an immediate and far-sighted planning of our traffic and water systems - with full realization of the futility of copying plans which were made necessary by such congested areas as about Manhattan.

It is absolutely essential that we of the metropolitan area of Southern California realize that we are in a class by ourselves. No other area of like population lends itself so admirably to ultra-modern development.

Unprecedented vision and indomitable courage built our present aqueduct and made possible our tremendous growth. We are exemplifying that same vision and courage in building the Colorado River Aqueduct which will again remove our limitations.

The same vision, used in the distribution of Colorado River water and in the solution of our traffic problems, will weave our entire coastal plain into a single population unit which may well be the ideal of "The World of Tomorrow."

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June 30, 1939

WHT
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Remarks of W. P. Whitsett at the meeting of the Water and Power Resources Committee of the Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce on Monday, April 24, 1939.

Chairman Jensen, and members of the Water and Power Resources Committee:

A few days ago George Cecil called me and asked me to discuss with you the policies of the Metropolitan Water District and its program for the future. This is a large and somewhat complex subject. Consequently, in order to limit my remarks to a reasonable time and confine them to some of the important phases of the subject, I have reduced them to writing.

Last December 29 was the tenth anniversary of the first meeting of the Board of Directors of The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California. Since that historical event we have come a long way and overcome a great many obstacles. The first great hurdle was the $220,000,000 bond issue, which was followed by almost a year of validating litigation. The next hurdle was to finance such a tremendous project at the very lowest point of the greatest depression the country has ever known. This was successfully initiated by a loan of $40,000,000 from the Reconstruction Finance Corporation, created by the Hoover administration and which had just been authorized to make loans to self-liquidating projects. In the formulation of the legislation permitting such loans, the representatives of the District can claim an important part. Then came the period of intensive construction which culminated in the holing through of the San Jacinto tunnel.

After closely observing the results of the years of

construction, I am firmly convinced that the policies we pursued in this regard were correct and thoroughly sound. Some of our Board members were of the opinion that all of the work should be contracted. Others believed it should all be done by force account. By employing both methods we created competition and rivalry which contributed greatly to the excellent progress, low cost, and high quality of workmanship for which the project has achieved a reputation.

I have briefly given you the background before which the District stands today. It is largely a record of a struggle with physical and technical problems. It was chiefly concerned with plans and specifications, with thousands of men doing their jobs, with feet of tunnel excavated in 24 hours, with cubic yards of concrete poured, and the like. These problems are behind us.

During the Fall of this year the initial development of the project will be completed except for some minor features of construction. We are now making plans for a celebration the latter part of September or the first part of October of this year in keeping with the arrival of Colorado River water in Southern California. This should be a real celebration in the old Southern California tradition in which every element of the community participates with unrestrained enthusiasm. Since the arrival of the water from the Owens Valley in 1913, there has not been an event of equal importance in the destiny of Southern California. When within the next few months we lay the plans for this celebration before you, I know we can be assured of your full cooperation.

With the physical completion of the Aqueduct and Colorado River water pouring into our economic life-stream, new and in many ways more difficult problems confront us. They deal with the intricate economic, psychological, and political factors involved in putting the project on a self-liquidating basis at the earliest possible date. We are in the position of the business man who has completed his factory and is about to start manufacturing and selling his product. He has solved the problems involving factory and machinery and is about to establish his marketing organization and undertake the sale of his product.

We are proceeding carefully with the formulation of the policies which will chart the District's future course. Back in 1931, before the bonds were sold, the Board of Directors of the District established a few fundamental principles. One of the first of these was that the area included within the District should not require ultimately more water than could be supplied by the Aqueduct together with the safe yield from existing sources. Roughly, the territory for which the Aqueduct was ultimately planned was defined as including the coastal plain area in Los Angeles, San Bernardino, Riverside, and Orange Counties lying between the mountains and the sea. Several modifications of this area have been considered at one time or another. A great interest in Colorado River water has been manifested by a large area in eastern Ventura County comprising the Simi Valley. This is a fertile and rich farming district with great potentialities and very inadequately supplied with water. It is naturally tributary to the Los Angeles metropolitan

area and is a part of our economic structure. The construction of the Hueneme (Wy-nee-mee) Harbor indicates the aggressive and progressive spirit of the people. I feel that eventually they will work out a sound method of participating in the Metropolitan Water District.

I want to call your attention to several very important implications involved in this policy of the District of balancing the area to be admitted against the capacity of the Aqueduct. You will note that this means that even after Colorado River water arrives there is still going to be more thirsty land in Southern California than water to supply the ultimate demand. It means further that for every area drinking from the Aqueduct some other area must forever be excluded. It is important that these facts be borne in mind because so many people, faced with a temporary abundance, become careless and wasteful thinking the condition permanent. It is like the oil and gas which have been so flagrantly wasted in the past but which will some day be greatly missed. The future will not deal gently with those who failed to have the foresight and the vision to take advantage of priceless opportunity while it was available.

Another area considered outside of the originally defined District has been San Diego City and the portions of San Diego County lying west of the mountains. At one time they seemed to be intensely interested in joining with the District but have not followed the matter up since their consulting engineers rendered a report adverse to joining with the District. In a certain sense I personally do not feel that the San Diego area is naturally a part of the Aqueduct project and should not be

considered except under conditions favorable to the District. An important factor in this situation is that San Diego has a right in its own name to 155 second feet of Colorado River water and since the Aqueduct can undoubtedly be made to carry this amount in addition to its designed capacity would not cause to be reduced the amount of Colorado River water available to the local area. But on the other hand we must recognize the fact that San Diego is not a part of the Los Angeles metropolitan district, and is, in fact, a competitive metropolitan center. Any development which takes place in San Diego County would be largely at the expense of the local area. While this is essentially a selfish point of view, I feel that we should conserve the benefits of the Colorado River Aqueduct to our local metropolitan communities and our people who had the vision and the courage to assume such an enormous financial obligation.

I have endeavored to indicate to you the District's annexation policy in its broadest sense. In its more particular aspects, there are a number of important considerations. At one time or another we have had inquiries towards annexation from practically every section of the coastal plain. They have varied in size from small individual towns to large agricultural districts of 50,000 acres or more in extent. The general policy of the District in treating with applicants for annexation is to give favorable consideration only to areas of sufficient size and water requirements to justify as economically feasible the delivery of Aqueduct water. Furthermore, areas should preferably so be/located as to control the entire production of water from local underground water basins affected.

In order to deal with the problem intelligently, the engineers have been attempting to outline and define units which the District would regard as qualifying for membership. Fourteen such units have been so far tentatively defined. I might point out in this connection that annexation to the District can take place either by joining to one of the existing member cities, or by setting up an individual unit which would independently seek to qualify for membership. A consideration having an important bearing on the number of units to be annexed is the fact that each such unit has a representative on our Board. Therefore, if the units annexed are small, the size of the Board of Directors may eventually become unwieldy and impractical from the standpoint of efficient functioning. The principle may be concisely stated by saying that the new areas to be annexed to the District should be as few and as large as possible.

Another principle relating to annexations which the District has accepted is that territory along the coast should be annexed before territory higher up the drainage slope. The reason for this is obvious. If the upper sections were admitted first the District would probably not be able to prevent territory lower down permanently benefitted by Colorado River water replenishing the underground basins. In other words, it is our policy and intention to control, as far as humanly possible, for the benefit of the District the use of Aqueduct water. As old Judge Hutton used to say, we don't want any riders on our bumper. Get inside and have a seat.

To digress for a moment, I would like to emphasize my personal slant with regard to the use of Colorado River water

and the expansion of the District. I am a strong believer that the best way to accomplish something successfully is to follow a method and procedure that has previously been demonstrated to be sound and practical. When you depart from the narrow path of proven human experience, you are apt to end up in a swamp or jungle from which there is no going ahead or back.

One of the most successful public undertakings ever achieved was Bill Mulholland's aqueduct to the High Sierras. Analysis will show that what made it succeed was Bill's uncanny ability to apply sound and fundamentally right basic principles. He believed that the first cost should be kept to the absolute minimum consistent with sound engineering and construction. He believed that when the City had brought the water in to the local area it had fulfilled its obligation and those who directly benefitted from the project should pick up the burden at that point. The success of his policy is demonstrated in the San Fernando Valley. There one-fourth of the water supply was made available to the Valley for agricultural purposes. On that one-fourth of the Aqueduct's capacity has grown the population of the San Fernando Valley, including the towns of Burbank and Glendale. In other words, 150,000 acres of land was changed from dry farming of grains where two crops in five were lost because of drought, to the highest type business, residential and rural developments. If we apply that same ratio of one-fourth to the Colorado River Aqueduct, a similar development of 600,000 additional acres on the coastal plain would be possible. There are approximately one million additional acres needing water in

the area I defined to you previously as constituting the potential District. This emphasizes what I said before -- the Aqueduct supply is limited. The wider we spread it the thinner it gets.

On this question of annexation as affected by the District's policies there are several observations which can be made. The District has an aggressive, capable committee dealing almost exclusively with these questions of annexation. Engineering studies have been made of the water resources and requirements of every part of the coastal plain. The District has indicated that untreated Colorado River water will be made available at approximately average local production cost of $8.00 per acre foot and that an additional charge of about $7.00 an acre foot will cover the cost of water softening.

Main distribution lines have been laid out and built and reservoirs provided to take care of the potential demand in as flexible a manner as possible. Innumerable personal contacts and much information and data has been furnished to everyone interested. In doing all of these things we appreciate fully that we are only laying the foundation for annexation. The actual annexations will be dictated by necessity and not by much of anything that the District might do. When the years get dry enough and the local supplies get low enough, we won't be able to keep them out of the District with soldiers and machine guns. When it gets dry enough, and it will sooner or later, they will be climbing over each others backs to get into the District and not much that we can do in the meantime will have an appreciable effect. This doesn't mean that we are letting up

in the least in our efforts to broaden the District's financial base but is only stating a fact as to cussed human nature - don't do anything until you have to.

There are several other possible uses of Colorado River water which, while not important in a revenue sense, are of considerable interest. Under the powers of its Act, the District has authority to sell water to agencies of the federal and state governments. Several inquiries from such sources have come in, including March Field, the Chino prison site, and the California Polytechnic School. Since such consumers will probably not be within the District, the water charge will be computed on the basis of their assuming a proportionate part of all costs.

Many inquiries for water have come to the District from areas in the desert east of Banning and adjacent to the Aqueduct line. No encouragement whatever has been given to such inquiries because they come from outside our definied ultimate area. However, within the last year a new type of desert development has been proposed. Dr. Clements of the Chamber, as a great desert lover, has been one of its principal proponents. Under a law passed by the 75th Congress, the Secretary of the Interior is empowered to sell or lease plots up to five acres from the federal domain. Under this Act the proposal has been made that desert communities be established under rigid control primarily for recreational and health purposes. Inquiries have been received by the District as to whether such units located adjacent to the Aqueduct would be provided with water. The Board of Directors of the District is now considering the proposal. Personally I feel that the proposal has considerable

merit. The developing of such communities under rigid federal control would prevent the creation of disreputable and unsightly shack towns around every desert waterhole.

The amount of water which the District would make available for strictly domestic use without any water for agricultural or beautification purposes would be infinitesimal in proportion to the benefits which might accrue to our citizens. Such projects, of course, would be entirely non-profitable and would be carried out under strict governmental regulations. The District would not serve individual consumers, but at wholesale to each such community at a price high enough to prevent waste or unnecessary use.

From now on the fundamental problem of the District stated in its simplest terms is this. How can the project be made self-liquidating at the earliest possible date? Everything we do must revolve around that fundamental requirement. The coming dry cycle will contribute materially to its solution. The growth of population in Southern California is another important factor, which I believe is taking care of itself very satisfactorily. The indications are that in spite of depression, uncertainty and what not, the flow of people into Southern California is continuous and unabating.

New industries are coming and old ones are expanding. The stage is being set for our next great wave of development when present economic uncertainties are definitely eliminated. Many economic studies have been made on the question of water rates as related to income and the encouragement of the use of water. Present indications are that a rate of $8.00 per acre

per acre foot for untreated water will probably result in the greatest possible revenue and the least tax cost during the early years of operation.

A treatment plant is being built on the premise that it will encourage the municipal and domestic consumption of water. This remains to be demonstrated. I personally am inclined to the view that it is more essential to conserve our funds and reduce the first cost as much as possible than it is to provide refinements that are desirable but that are not absolutely necessary. In my opinion the District's primary market for water during the first years of operation is going to be the agricultural demand for untreated water. During the early years of operation there will have to be a distribution of the cost between water rates and taxation. By increasing the total water revenue, the tax levy can be reduced. Here again this calculation depends on such intangibles as rainfall, population growth and the rate of expansion of the District. I firmly believe that the best interest of our communities and citizens lies in keeping the water rate low. The resulting growth of the District and the demands on the Aqueduct will eventually reduce the tax cost to the vanishing point.

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the area I defined to you previously as constituting the potential District. This emphasizes what I said before -- the Aqueduct supply is limited. The wider we spread it the thinner it gets.

On this question of annexation as affected by the District's policies there are several observations which can be made. The District has an aggressive, capable committee dealing almost exclusively with these questions of annexation. Engineering studies have been made of the water resources and requirements of every part of the coastal plain. The District has indicated that untreated Colorado River water will be made available at approximately average local production cost of $8.00 per acre foot and that an additional charge of about $7.00 an acre foot will cover the cost of water softening.

Main distribution lines have been laid out and built and reservoirs provided to take care of the potential demand in as flexible a manner as possible. Innumerable personal contacts and much information and data has been furnished to everyone interested. In doing all of these things we appreciate fully that we are only laying the foundation for annexation. The actual annexations will be dictated by necessity and not by much of anything that the District might do. When the years get dry enough and the local supplies get low enough, we won't be able to keep them out of the District with soldiers and machine guns. When it gets dry enough, and it will sooner or later, they will be climbing over each others backs to get into the District and not much that we can do in the meantime will have an appreciable effect. This doesn't mean that we are letting up

in the least in our efforts to broaden the District's financial base but is only stating a fact as to cussed human nature - don't do anything until you have to.

There are several other possible uses of Colorado River water which, while not important in a revenue sense, are of considerable interest. Under the powers of its Act, the District has authority to sell water to agencies of the federal and state governments. Several inquiries from such sources have come in, including March Field, the Chino prison site, and the California Polytechnic School. Since such consumers will probably not be within the District, the water charge will be computed on the basis of their assuming a proportionate part of all costs.

Many inquiries for water have come to the District from areas in the desert east of Banning and adjacent to the Aqueduct line. No encouragement whatever has been given to such inquiries because they come from outside our definied ultimate area. However, within the last year a new type of desert development has been proposed. Dr. Clements of the Chamber, as a great desert lover, has been one of its principal proponents. Under a law passed by the 75th Congress, the Secretary of the Interior is empowered to sell or lease plots up to five acres from the federal domain. Under this Act the proposal has been made that desert communities be established under rigid control primarily for recreational and health purposes. Inquiries have been received by the District as to whether such units located adjacent to the Aqueduct would be provided with water. The Board of Directors of the District is now considering the proposal. Personally I feel that the proposal has considerable

merit. The developing of such communities under rigid federal control would prevent the creation of disreputable and unsightly shack towns around every desert waterhole.

The amount of water which the District would make available for strictly domestic use without any water for agricultural or beautification purposes would be infinitesimal in proportion to the benefits which might accrue to our citizens. Such projects, of course, would be entirely non-profit and would be carried out under strict governmental regulations. The District would not serve individual consumers, but wholesale to each such community at a price high enough to prevent waste or unnecessary use.

From now on the fundamental problem of the District stated in its simplest terms is this. How can the project be made self-liquidating at the earliest possible date? Everything we do must revolve around that fundamental requirement. The coming dry cycle will contribute materially to its solution. The growth of population in Southern California is another important factor, which I believe is taking care of itself very satisfactorily. The indications are that in spite of depression, uncertainty and what not, the flow of people into Southern California is continuous and unabating.

New industries are coming and old ones are expanding. The stage is being set for our next great wave of development when present economic uncertainties are definitely eliminated. Many economic studies have been made on the question of water rates as related to income and the encouragement of the use of water. Present indications are that a rate of $8.00 per acre

WHT
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Remarks by W. P. Whitsett, Chairman of the Board of Directors of The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, to the members of the Hollywood Division of the Los Angeles Realty Board, meeting at the Hollywood Chamber of Commerce on Tuesday evening, April 11, 1939.

Mr. Chairman, and members of the Hollywood Division of the Los Angeles Realty Board:

Speaking to this outstanding and representative group of realtors on the subject "Selling Southern California" presents a difficult problem.

You know too much about my subject!!

A speaker is supposed to bring his audience information they want or need - or present known facts with a new emphasis.

I realize that you gentlemen - perhaps more than any other group in this Golden State of ours - know all the facts. You are aware of the manifold attractions of climate, scenery, natural resources, agricultural and industrial opportunities as well as the educational and cultural advantages so rapidly developing here.

You are aware that Hollywood itself with its glamourous appeal broadcast to the entire world by motion pictures and radio has turned the eyes of the world toward California. You know that our fresh fruits and vegetables displayed on corner stands throughout the nation and Canada and our canned products sold by grocers of many lands have given us publicity beyond the power of money to buy.

Undoubtedly you are familiar with the interesting facts compiled by Don Thomas of the All-Year Club of Southern

California -

That last year tourists spent $194,000,000 here - our second largest individual source of new community income.

That over a period of years 10% of visitors return to locate permanently.

That 85% of homes built for owner-occupancy are built by former tourists.

That two out of every five people moving to the eleven western states settled in Los Angeles County.

That in the past two years 22 nationally known manufacturers located plants in Los Angeles County and 26 plants made expansions.

And I know you realize that the Los Angeles metropolitan area has increased from 30,000 to about 2-1/2 millions in the short space of fifty years.

And that California has more citizens from other states than any other state in the Union - and at the same time has the smallest percentage of her native born living in other states. This shows that you realtors are on the job in Selling Southern California - and it also shows that we have what it takes to hold our own native born.

But I didn't come here to repeat facts you already know.

My purpose is to place emphasis on the one factor lacking in Nature's bounteous provision for man in this ideal spot and to bring you a new realization of the ingenuity and courage with which we have faced and conquered this lack - lack of water, that vital necessity for human existence.

I would emphasize the realization that all the foregoing facts are contingent upon our imported water supply - that great cities, industries, commerce and everything we have built here are predicated upon the dependability of water available - that thinking people do not buy land in desert places,but they buy an interest in the water supply. The artery feeding all our urban activities and supporting our economic life has been that little line of steel and concrete that twists and winds across the Antelope Valley into the High Sierras.

The story of the growth of the City of Los Angeles from a cluster of adobe huts, a little over 150 years ago, to one of the large cities in the world today can be told in terms of water. From the founding of the City to the year 1862, the primary use to which the land was put was grazing, and 40¢ an acre was a good price. The great drought of that year practically put an end to the industry. Cattle herds had grown beyond the water supply of the territory. Next came the great grain ranches. Some of you here today no doubt recall the time when the San Fernando Valley and elsewhere on the coastal plain were great seas of waving grain. This period ended in the 80's with the introduction of efficient pumping machinery and its use in irrigation. With it came the great citrus industry which without a constant supply of water would vanish in a comparatively few years. Wild grasses and chaparral would take possession of the land again and it would revert to desert.

It is interesting to speculate what would have been the condition in Southern California had the Owens Valley

Aqueduct never been built. When "Chief Mulholland" disclosed his vision of bringing water from the High Sierras there were many who scoffed and said that Los Angeles would never need it. Plans had been proposed for bringing water from the San Gabriel Valley. The city undoubtedly could have gotten a supply from that source which would have filled the immediate need. It would have been, however, at the expense of the balance of the coastal plain. Had the scheme been carried out, where you see beautiful groves and homes and communities in the San Gabriel Valley, there would today have been a great expanse of worthless desert waste. Fortunately for the people of Southern California, the more difficult, the sounder, and the far-seeing plan of building the Aqueduct was adopted.

With the building of the Colorado River Aqueduct I believe we have again followed the sound and far-seeing plan. Many years of contact with the water supply of Southern California, first in connection with my own investments, and then as a member of the water and power commission of the City of Los Angeles and later as Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Metropolitan Water District, I continually find many of our people do not grasp the fact that they are in reality living in a desert environment. They think of their real estate values in terms of land and people, rather than in terms of water. When you stop to think of it, Southern California is only an artificial oasis in the desert. It is probably the only community in the world supporting millions of people that is located over 300 miles from an important river or a large body

of fresh water. Our average annual rainfall of 15 inches compares with from two to four times this amount in the other major centers of population in the United States, and that is only part of the story. Our meager rainfall comes in three or four months and the balance of the year is dry. Large reservoir sites do not exist and if they did they would be unusable because of the high rate of evaporation. And still further, our 15 inches average rainfall is made up of years running from little more than nothing to as high as 36 inches. Therefore, the average means practically nothing when four or five years in succession it has been much less. It is the years of minimum rainfall that measure our security. We have been living off waters stored for countless ages in our underground basins. It is like the individual living off his bank account without any income - sooner or later he goes broke.

It was this condition that brought about the construction of the Colorado River Aqueduct. Where the wealth and security of millions of people is involved, there can be no gambling with their water supply. It must be as certain as the rising of the sun. This ~~next~~ year the Colorado River Aqueduct will go into operation. This great project which was started 15 years ago is now nearing completion. That little stream of water from the High Sierras will soon be relieved of its sole responsibility and will have the assistance of another aqueduct 300 miles long, bringing the melted snows of the Rocky Mountains to Southern California. With that water will come a new period of growth for Southern California. No longer will business and industry say that they

cannot afford to take the chance on Southern California because she has not sufficient water. For years the engineers sent out by eastern industrial concerns to investigate the feasibility of locating plants in Southern California have reported to their principals that Southern California has a precarious water supply and have pointed out that this area has not experienced a major drought since 1900 as severe as those recorded prior to that time. You and I know of industries that have demanded a guaranteed water supply before they would accept a site for a factory. This hesitancy has now disappeared. Industries seeking to locate in Southern California are eliminating the question of water supply and confining themselves entirely to economic considerations. Our realty values and our investments are at last about to be placed on a really sound and secure foundation. If not a drop of water were used out of the Colorado River Aqueduct, it is worth every dollar it cost in terms of insurance to existing values and to the safety it guarantees to the inevitable expansion of population and industry. You have your insurance and in addition a sound investment which will pay hansome returns in the years to come.

In addition, you have had the benefits of this construction beginning in 1932 during the worst depression this country has ever experienced. 14,000 men have been given employment on this project and I venture to say that there is probably not an individual or business concern in Southern California that has not directly benefited by the millions of dollars of expenditures for materials and supplies which went into the construction.

And this project was not cutting weeds and raking leaves or piling dirt; it was an honest dollars's worth for every dollar spent and will remain a community asset for all time to come.

Like all great, forward looking projects, built as an insurance against drought and to supply future needs, the Colorado River Aqueduct cannot now be fully appreciated. As always in the past, population and industry will flow to those areas having this assured water supply, which is truly the life-blood of all future development.

Conclusion

The attractions of Southern California enjoy world-wide publicity. The citizens of Southern California have had the vision to supply its one lack and insure its future stability. One million visitors each year are "selling" Southern California to their friends back home. Gentlemen, it looks like all we have to do is meet them and show them where to sign on the dotted line.

WHT
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M.S.C.

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Statement by Chairman W. P. Whitsett, Board of Directors
The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California

copy

MAIN AQUEDUCT COMPLETION RADIO BROADCAST

Saturday, October 14, 1939, 6:00 p.m.

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We who gathered here today have stood in the presence of an historic event. We have witnessed the actual completion of the main line of the Colorado River Aqueduct, the greatest construction job of its kind ever to be brought to successful completion in America.

Back of this report of accomplishment stand twenty years of bold and practical dreams of a mighty water supply system that will forever free the cities of the Metropolitan Water District from the menace of drought. Twenty years of careful, expert planning by the most competent and able group of engineering authorities ever assembled on a similar project. Twenty years of tireless work on the part of public spirited citizens who have given their unwavering support to the end that a vital and essential public enterprise might be successfully consummated. And finally, during the past seven years of this period -- all these dreams and these plans have been wrought into a gigantic structure of reality by the toil and the loyalty of the great army of aqueduct workmen who have now brought to completion the actual construction of the major part of a gigantic water supply system that will bring an everlasting flood of life-giving water from the Colorado River to each of the cities within The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California.

The completion of the main aqueduct today signalizes the final victory in the long war that our people have waged against the Desert and against the menace of Drought. In the winning of this war our great army of aqueduct builders have used 7,000,000 barrels of cement - but they have not used this cement to build forts, and trenches and pill boxes for the emplacement of cannon and machine guns. They have used it to build an everlasting water supply system extending 392 miles from the Colorado River to the thirteen cities of the Metropolitan Water District. In the winning of this war our aqueduct builders have used 283,000 tons of steel. But they have not used it to build weapons of destruction and death. They have used it to reinforce and strengthen a great life-giving water supply system that will forever sustain and enrich our children and our children's children in this favored land. In the winning of this war our aqueduct builders have used 20,000,000 pounds of dynamite and high explosives. But they have not used it to destroy cities and homes and to kill and injure defenseless women and children. They have used it to blast away the stubborn mountain barriers that stood in the pathway of a life-line of water - water now ready to flow through these mountain barriers and onto the Coastal Plain of Southern California. Through the portal of this tunnel which pierces the towering barrier of Mt. San Jacinto there now shall come a constant, abundant, controlled supply of water. Water - the priceless possession of a desert land. Water - to build and sustain a new Empire upon the shores of the Pacific.

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WHT
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Mr. Chairman, Members of the Savings and Loan Club of Southern California and Friends:

I feel particularly happy and comfortable in this group - for by the nature of the business you represent, I am sure you belong to that good old American school of thought in which I was reared. That school taught that thrifty living, consistent saving and carefully secured loans are the best way to personal, national and world Security.

The American spirit of self-dependence which has built the greatest nation on earth in a century and a half was rooted in the belief that there should be no special privileges for classes or individuals. Just as our founders discarded the Divine right of Royalty to inherit power and wealth created by the masses, so I believe today they would discard the right of indigents to inherit a security which hard-working, self-denying men and women have made possible by their energy and thrift.

Of course, the orphaned young, the physically and mentally afflicted and the infirm aged should be provided with comfort and opportunity by the Society of which they are, through the weaknesses of Society, inevitably a part.

Beyond those actually afflicted by circumstances beyond their control history and psychology prove that relief from personal and social responsibility is an injustice rather than a help. It is a dirge to ambition, a deathknell to the development of genius and initiative in business and in the arts --

a subjugation of man's primal urge for self-preservation which is the basis of all progress - and finally, it is the doom of that self-respect which has lifted the human race from the limitations of the jungle to his present mastery of the physical forces of a mighty, unchangeable nature.

I make bold to say these things here, because I know of no other ideas upon which a Savings and Loan business could be established or maintained.

At this crucial hour of world history, when the immature spiritual ideals of a half-selfish world are struggling with the age-old primitive forces of the physical and wholly selfish man, we wonder whether this boasted mastery of science, with all its potential power will further our progress or spell our destruction. Like all power in whatever form, human or mechanical, modern man's knowledge can be used to build or to make chaos. The purpose for which we use our present mastery of science will determine its ultimate value to humanity.

Here in Southern California we should feel a just pride in that we have made use of modern engineering genius and mechanical invention to build the world's greatest water system - to bring the waters of the Colorado over three hundred miles of desert and mountain through an Aqueduct constructed to last through the ages. This mighty project was constructed for the worthy purpose of supplying to this beautiful, fruitful coastal plain the one necessity it lacks -- water. The seemingly impossible has been accomplished. Water has been lifted through five pumping plants to a height of 1645 feet and is even now on its way to fill the great reservoirs which will supply the needs

of ten million people. Yes, the late summer of this year will see the completion of the Colorado River Aqueduct, insuring stability to the growth of this favored land, and removing through time to come that dread specter of drought which forever haunts these semi-desert places. And whatever happens to our present civilization in the future, that aqueduct will stand as a lasting monument to the mastery of science possessed by twentieth century man.

But let us leave speculations and predictions to the radio and newspapers. What interests us most is the immediate business and prospects of our own beloved Southern California. It behooves us to study and work for its best present and future security - and to pray that the rest of the world - each part minding well its own business - may be able to make its best contribution to world security.

We in Southern California are generally well-aware of our superior year-around climate, our beautiful and varied scenery, our abundant supply of healthful foods, our rich mineral and oil deposits and of the economic and cultural wealth which these resources have concentrated here.

Our citizens have ever been alert to their opportunities - energetic and resourceful in making the most of them. Some facts recently compiled by Don Thomas of the All-Year Club show the splendid results of our concentrated efforts. Here are a few of them.

Last year tourists spent $194,000,000 here - our second largest individual source of new community income.

Over a period of years 10% of visitors return to locate permanently.

85% of homes built for owner-occupancy are built by former tourists.

Two out of every five people moving to the eleven western states settled in Los Angeles County.

In the past two years 22 nationally known manufacturers located plants in Los Angeles County and 26 plants made expansions.

The Los Angeles metropolitan area has increased from 30,000 to about 2-1/2 millions in the short space of fifty years.

California has more citizens from other states than any other state in the Union - and at the same time has the smallest percentage of her native born living in other states. This shows that we have the attractions people throughout the nation are seeking - and it also shows that we have what it takes to hold our own native born.

All of these pleasant facts we hear and absorb with a feeling of renewed security, with little realization that all our gains - in fact our very existance in Southern California, have been made possible by the little pools of water accumulated in our underground gravel beds through the ages - augmented by that hollow cord of steel and concrete called the Los Angeles Aqueduct flung across the desert to bring to us the melting snows of the High Sierras.

Damocles at the king's banquet, sitting under a sword suspended by a single hair might as well have felt secure as we who have entertained dreams of the continued growth of Southern California without first securing a more adequate and dependable

water supply ~~of water~~ well in advance of our present needs. For Southern California is, in reality, only an artificial oasis in the desert. It is probably the only community in the world supporting millions of people, that is located more than three hundred miles from an important river or large body of fresh water. Yes, this incomparable land we love so much has existed only by sufference of the desert. How close the ~~margin~~ contest has been and how narrow our margin of victory, only those closely related and concerned with water problems can appreciate.

With the completion of the Colorado River Aqueduct this year I think we can safely say that the battle is over and the desert has been pushed for all times beyond the mountains. From now on we can concentrate all of our thoughts and energies to the building up and perfecting of the great resources and assets with which nature has endowed us. The sword that has hung over our heads will henceforth be suspended, not by a single hair but by two stout cords. We will have two aqueducts drawing water from widely separated independent water sheds in entirely different climatic zones. Our great Los Angeles Aqueduct, marvelous and indispensable as it has been, is unfortunately located in the coastal climatic belt and suffers from the same dry cycle as our local sources. The Colorado River Aqueduct will draw water from 240,000 square miles of watershed, extending clear up to the roof of the continent in Colorado and Wyoming. If this country were ever plunged into modern warfare, every single one of our citizens would become acutely aware of the importance of our two great aqueducts. Giant enemy planes of the future would unquestionably have these two aqueducts as their

main objectives. The possibility that both of them would be bombed out of service at the same time is a remote contingency. It may be interesting to know that during the construction of the Colorado River Aqueduct army experts studied the location of the Aqueduct, with its many tunnels and pumping plants, from the standpoint of national defense, and from all I have been able to learn were well satisfied with the location and the design.

Perhaps you are asking in your minds, "What basis have we for the assumption that Southern California will continue to grow in the future as it has in the past?" May I answer with some personal observations and facts. Many of you here have been over the same trail that I have. Some of you were undoubtedly already here when I came to Southern California about forty years ago. Some of you probably as I did came here for reasons of health and have remained to devote your enthusiasms to your adopted land. Since coming to California in the early part of the century I have studied as intently as it was possible for me to do the question of the growth and development of Southern California. I have made frequent trips throughout the east to study the attitude of the balance of the nation toward Southern California, particularly with regard to the migration of people and industry to this area, and the markets for California products in the east. I have traveled throughout Europe to learn what the Old World has to teach us in the way of successful living and to observe the form their civilization has taken after thousands of years of experimentation. These studies and observations have left me with the conclusion that

no place in the world today has the attraction for a steady population increase possessed by Southern California, I could cite numerous statistics in support of this contention taken from the Federal census such as quoted above.

This movement westward evidenced by the unprecedented growth of this community is not a thing of change, it is the culmination of a general trend. During all the years of which we have authentic history there has been a flow of population from east to west. The population of modern Europe came from Asia. The growth of this hemisphere has come about since Columbus crossed the Atlantic in 1492 and has been from the east coast to the west coast. Whether there is any scientific reason for this flow of population following the course of the sun I do not know. The fact remains, however, that here along the Pacific coast the migration of people is looking across the broad expanse of the Pacific to the place from which they started. With no lands further west, the flow has been dammed up against the waters of the Pacific and has started a great process of concentration. I do not for a minute believe that his movement of people around the earth would have any significance were it not for the fact that we have everything here which the peoples of the earth have sought in all their movements down through the ages. We have a food supply of the highest quality and of infinite variety throughout the year. We have the life-giving all-year sunshine under climatic conditions which make possible vigorous living without the enervating effects of the tropics. Our oil, our gas, our products of our mines in infinite variety, chemical, and agricultural raw

materials of almost every description, our products of the forests and the seas, a great reserve of competent labor and growing markets for finished products, make inevitable the industrial growth and expansion which statistics reveal is already taking place. From the standpoint of recreation, which people are demanding more and more, we have every variety to be found anywhere in the world. From the seacoast to the snowcapped mountains there is a gradual transition which at some point has an appeal for every individual under the sun. The cultural foundation on which this great new civilization will be founded is manifest everywhere in Southern California. The artistry of the studios, the scientific accomplishments of Cal-Tech, the growing international recognition of musical and literary accomplishment are all manifestations of the trend.

The missing link of water is now being supplied and it only remains for us to take advantage of our opportunities and develop them to the fullest. Some of the pessimists say that this all may have been very true in the past, but population throughout the world is becoming static, migration has stopped, and there is no excess to flow to Southern California. These facts are well established. Nevertheless, Southern California will grow, probably at the expense of the balance of the nation. While population in eastern centers remains constant or actually decreases, Southern California will continue to grow as it has throughout the depression. In fact, figures are available to show that many cities in the east are actually losing population, while we are growing. An important stimulus to this trend is the modern development of old-age

pension programs. As people reach the retirement age the attractions of Southern California become irresistible. We must recognize the fact that many people in the future will retire on comparatively small monthly incomes. For that situation Southern California has an ideal solution which is clearly demonstrated in the San Fernando Valley and on the coastal plain of ~~Los Angeles~~ So California County. This type of development has been particularly interesting to me and I observed it intimately in the age-old centers of Europe. The solution is the garden acre home where people can supplement their cash income by producing a large part of the family requirements. The shorter work day and week, which is being made possible by modern machinery gives ample time for employees of all types to engage in the healthful practice of producing a large part of their food requirements. In the future you will see this type of development brought to its highest state of perfection in Southern California.

With the influx of people bringing new wealth and culture, the beautification of our cities along modern lines will inevitably follow. The time will come when this entire coastal plain will be one well-organized, artistically beautiful workshop and playground where human living can conceivably approach the ideal.

Through our motion pictures and over the radio, the glamour of Southern California is being broadcast to the world. Our fresh fruits and vegetables on the corner stands throughout the nation and canned foods on the shelves of every grocery store proclaim the richness of our land. We have had the faith and courage to remove the one lack in Nature's bounteous provision by building the greatest water supply system in the world. The Pacific Era is upon us. We are prepared for it. Surely a great Destiny awaits us.

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Remarks by W. P. Whitsett, Chairman of the Board of Directors of The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, on the occasion of the presentation to The Honorable Jesse H. Jones of a memento on behalf of the Board of Directors of the District.
August 11, 1939

Mr. Toastmaster, Ladies and Gentlemen:

For the past ten years, the foremost problem in America has been to find useful employment for millions of our citizens who were victims of an economic chaos, unprecedented in our history.

Our honor guest today, as Chairman of the Reconstruction Finance Corporation during this period, has made possible honest, creative work for hundreds of thousands of men on constructive, self-liquidating projects which will stand as monuments to his wisdom and ability in the administration of public funds. Funds secured by interest-bearing bonds which are an asset to our national treasury.

One of the largest of the projects financed by loans from the Reconstruction Finance Corporation is our Colorado River Aqueduct.

During the construction of this greatest water supply system in the World, we have given employment directly to a total of 35,000 men. And in the manufacture of about 70,000 carloads of material, equipment and supplies, brought from all parts of this Nation, we have furnished employment to tens of thousands of other workers.

The water brought to the coastal plain by this Aqueduct - now nearly completed, will make possible the continuing development of our cities, creating additional employment and opportunity for generations to come.

Mr. Jones, in recognition of your public service as a great administrator and practical statesman, the Board of Directors of The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California wish to present this token of appreciation -

A vase - to hold water, - water symbolic of that stream which we will bring to the Golden Cities through our great Aqueduct; and flowers, - flowers symbolic of the beauty and productivity made possible to Southern California by that Aqueduct.

The vase bears this inscription -

HONORABLE JESSE H. JONES
GREAT ADMINISTRATOR AND PRACTICAL STATESMAN
WHOSE LASTING PUBLIC SERVICE, NATIONWIDE AND
TO CALIFORNIA, IS GRATEFULLY APPRECIATED.
PRESENTED BY
BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF
THE METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT
OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA
AUGUST 11, 1939
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

The future of Southern California in the light
of observations of Eastern Metropolitan Cities
by
W. P. Whitsett
Chairman, Board of Directors of
The Metropolitan Water District
of Southern California

It is always good to come home. But after a complete tour of these United States - relaxing in the languorous atmosphere of tropical Florida, visiting the high spots of the Eastern Seaboard, motoring through historic New England, taking in the Fairs at New York and San Francisco, and points between - I am more convinced than ever before that the most fortunate man in America is the man who comes home to Southern California.

This statement is not prompted by the natural way one feels for one's home - nor by an over-developed sense of loyalty - nor yet by a desire to uphold our reputation as boosters. Rather, it is made in calm deliberation after careful observation of ALL conditions wherever I have traveled - observations which have made me realize how many sections of our country are outmoded in architecture and transportation facilities - how many of our great cities are top-heavy with intricate devices in the attempt to adapt the conditions of the slow and simple village blacksmith days to our fast and complicated motor age - and how, of all the metropolitan areas in this great land, that of Los Angeles is best designed to meet the requirements of that fabulous "World of Tomorrow," so ably and glamorously depicted at the New York World's Fair.

We are in an era of rapid and drastic change - of inventions so numerous and diverse that, for one of my conservative years and ideas, to see them all combined and demonstrated as at our World's Fairs, is like the awakening of Rip Van Winkle after his twenty-years' sleep in those peaceful hills beside the quiet-flowing Hudson.

One exhibit in particular has "stolen the show" in New York. It is that of General Motors in which one tours across the United States of 1960 - complete in diorama and seen from a moving platform while explanations of each scene come through an individual speaker beside your comfortable chair.

In this vivid portrayal of the country twenty years hence, rapid transportation on fool-proof highways is the point of emphasis. No longer are cities crowded or traffic congested. The City of 1960 is spread out over a large area - with parks and trees, playgrounds and great amusement centers with ample parking space for cars that travel at 100 miles per hour over divided, many-laned highways with no left-hand turns or grade crossings. These arterial highways are fed by an

inflow from side roads so designed as not to slow down cars on the main thoroughfare. Likewise, motor cars leave the arterial highway without interference with the main line of traffic. So perfectly has this ideal system of motor transportation been worked out to combine speed and safety, that the suburban home of tomorrow may enjoy every convenience of the city without that dreadful spectre of the "traffic jam" which today wears our nerves and threatens our lives.

"But," you may say, "that is an artist's portrayal of an engineer's dream." True, that is what I saw in actuality. And in my knowledge of the physical limitations of many of our leading cities today, I realized how impossible it would be for them to realize that dream. But, this is the point I want to make clear. It is - that our own Los Angeles, spread out as it is over 450 square miles, and the contiguous cities of this great metropolitan area with over 600,000 adjoining undeveloped acres, are made to order for the development of a highway system which will fit us perfectly into that ideal "World of Tomorrow."

It is that "World of Tomorrow" for which in part we have built the Colorado River Aqueduct - that community of the future here in Southern California of millions of people who may live in God's sunshine on Nature's fresh foods amid serene surroundings with close proximity to all of the art, culture, and commercial advantages of modern civilization.

On my recent visit to New York for the purpose of getting a first-hand picture of transportation facilities, I hired an automobile and drove over a thousand miles, taking in the main highways in and about New York and Boston. It was most interesting to see the splendid way these two cities have worked out their main arterial highways to avoid congestion and facilitate speed and safety. New York particularly has done a magnificent job within the limitations of its site in developing a system of parkways leading to and from principal suburbs and connecting these through the Hendrick Hudson and East River Drives with the very heart of the City. The Triborough Bridge connecting Queens, the Bronx and Manhattan by many-laned boulevards over intricate winding bridges is a masterpiece of engineering. This ingenious highway system, augmented by subways, elevated, ferries and boats makes possible the commutation of millions who go daily from Westchester, Long Island and Jersey to office and factory in New York. But one trip, by any of these ways of transportation on a hot summer day, will convince the thoughtful observer that the limit of population concentration in this region has been reached. To pass miles of apartment houses with pale women and fragile

children leaning out of windows to get a breath of air - air so full of smoke and dust that it envelops the city in a cloud visible for many miles distant as one approaches New York from the open sea; to listen to the constant rumble of traffic that jars nerves until the finer senses are dulled; to travel block after block with never a sprig of green to please the eye - all this is bound to impress one with the fact that the alert youth, with the will and ability to better his conditions, will never remain in such surroundings. His grandfather sighed wistfully as he heard of the spacious green acres of fine estates on the Hudson - but they were only for the wealthy!

The youth today knows it is possible to have a modern bungalow with a garden acre where life can be lived fully and richly with moderate means, and he knows he does not have to endure the confinement of the city to enjoy the advantages his grandfather sought there. Modern devices have given to the suburban, and even the rural home, light, automatic heat and all the electrical gadgets which, a few years ago, made the apartment so desirable. The radio has abolished that loneliness and isolation once the bug-a-boo of the country. The automobile has given the country boy that sense of freedom and speed he once sought in the city. And the movie has carried to every community center the glamor which once belonged to Broadway alone. All these innovations have completely changed our American mode of life. The conditions which compelled great masses of people to huddle together in congested areas in order to put themselves in contact with the rest of the world no longer exist. There is today no sane reason for such concentration of population as built New York and similar cities.

Furthermore, the youth with initiative and ability knows from the education he was compelled to take and from the newspapers he peddles on busy streets, that he need not be snowbound all winter - nor swelter in a crowded tenement all summer. He has heard a lot about this magic land of California with its friendly year-around climate and he is going to see and know it for himself. He belongs to the world of tomorrow and he will recognize Southern California as the best place in which to make that world come true.

It is up to us to clean up the slums we have (and they are so small compared with those in other cities of our size), convert them into parks to beautify our city and into auto parking places which will maintain the values of our best downtown districts. It is up to us to work out here in Southern California our traffic problems to include not only our present cities, but to make easily and safely accessible

those 600,000 acres which can be developed with the additional supply of water which the Colorado River Aqueduct will soon deliver. With abundant water and an Al system of highways, we will invite the building of workmen's homes on garden acres where production for use is practical, and of gentlemen's estates where families may live as in the English countryside or on the Hudson, with easy access to the city. Naturally, we must preserve those metropolitan values created by the foresight and patience of our leaders. This can best be done by an immediate and far-sighted planning of our traffic and water systems - with full realization of the futility of copying plans which were made necessary by such congested areas as about Manhattan.

It is absolutely essential that we of the metropolitan area of Southern California realize that we are in a class by ourselves. No other area of like population lends itself so admirably to ultra-modern development.

Unprecedented vision and indomitable courage built our present aqueduct and made possible our tremendous growth. We are exemplifying that same vision and courage in building the Colorado River Aqueduct which will again remove our limitations.

The same vision, used in the distribution of Colorado River water and in the solution of our traffic problems, will weave our entire coastal plain into a single population unit which may well be the ideal of "The World of Tomorrow."

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June 30, 1939

4-13-39

WHT
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Mr. Chairman, Members of the Savings and Loan Club of Southern California and Friends:

I feel particularly happy and comfortable in this group - for by the nature of the business you represent, I am sure you belong to that good old American school of thought in which I was reared. That school taught that thrifty living, consistent saving and carefully secured loans are the best way to personal, national and world Security.

The American spirit of self-dependence which has built the greatest nation on earth in a century and a half was rooted in the belief that there should be no special privileges for classes or individuals. Just as our founders discarded the Divine right of Royalty to inherit power and wealth created by the masses, so I believe today they would discard the right of indigents to inherit a security which hard-working, self-denying men and women have made possible by their energy and thrift.

Of course, the orphaned young, the physically and mentally afflicted and the infirm aged should be provided with comfort and opportunity by the Society of which they are, through the weaknesses of Society, inevitably a part.

Beyond those actually afflicted by circumstances beyond their control history and psychology prove that relief from personal and social responsibility is an injustice rather than a help. It is a dirge to ambition, a deathknell to the development of genius and initiative in business and in the arts --

a subjugation of man's primal urge for self-preservation which is the basis of all progress - and finally, it is the doom of that self-respect which has lifted the human race from the limitations of the jungle to his present mastery of the physical forces of a mighty, unchangeable nature.

I make bold to say these things here, because I know of no other ideas upon which a Savings and Loan business could be established or maintained.

At this crucial hour of world history, when the immature spiritual ideals of a half-selfish world are struggling with the age-old primitive forces of the physical and wholly selfish man, we wonder whether this boasted mastery of science, with all its potential power will further our progress or spell our destruction. Like all power in whatever form, human or mechanical, modern man's knowledge can be used to build or to make chaos. The purpose for which we use our present mastery of science will determine its ultimate value to humanity.

Here in Southern California we should feel a just pride in that we have made use of modern engineering genius and mechanical invention to build the world's greatest water system - to bring the waters of the Colorado over three hundred miles of desert and mountain through an Aqueduct constructed to last through the ages. This mighty project was constructed for the worthy purpose of supplying to this beautiful, fruitful coastal plain the one necessity it lacks -- water. The seemingly impossible has been accomplished. Water has been lifted through five pumping plants to a height of 1645 feet and is even now on its way to fill the great reservoirs which will supply the needs

of ten million people. Yes, the late summer of this year will see the completion of the Colorado River Aqueduct, insuring stability to the growth of this favored land, and removing through time to come that dread specter of drought which forever haunts these semi-desert places. And whatever happens to our present civilization in the future, that aqueduct will stand as a lasting monument to the mastery of science possessed by twentieth century man.

But let us leave speculations and predictions to the radio and newspapers. What interests us most is the immediate business and prospects of our own beloved Southern California. It behooves us to study and work for its best present and future security - and to pray that the rest of the world - each part minding well its own business - may be able to make its best contribution to world security.

We in Southern California are generally well-aware of our superior year-around climate, our beautiful and varied scenery, our abundant supply of healthful foods, our rich mineral and oil deposits and of the economic and cultural wealth which these resources have concentrated here.

Our citizens have ever been alert to their opportunities - energetic and resourceful in making the most of them. Some facts recently compiled by Don Thomas of the All-Year Club show the splendid results of our concentrated efforts. Here are a few of them.

Last year tourists spent $194,000,000 here - our second largest individual source of new community income.

Over a period of years 10% of visitors return to locate permanently.

85% of homes built for owner-occupancy are built by former tourists.

Two out of every five people moving to the eleven western states settled in Los Angeles County.

In the past two years 22 nationally known manufacturers located plants in Los Angeles County and 26 plants made expansions.

The Los Angeles metropolitan area has increased from 30,000 to about 2-1/2 millions in the short space of fifty years.

California has more citizens from other states than any other state in the Union - and at the same time has the smallest percentage of her native born living in other states. This shows that we have the attractions people throughout the nation are seeking - and it also shows that we have what it takes to hold our own native born.

All of these pleasant facts we hear and absorb with a feeling of renewed security, with little realization that all our gains - in fact our very existance in Southern California, have been made possible by the little pools of water accumulated in our underground gravel beds through the ages - augmented by that hollow cord of steel and concrete called the Los Angeles Aqueduct flung across the desert to bring to us the melting snows of the High Sierras.

Damocles at the king's banquet, sitting under a sword suspended by a single hair might as well have felt secure as we who have entertained dreams of the continued growth of Southern California without first securing a more adequate and dependable

water supply ~~of water~~ well in advance of our present needs. For Southern California is, in reality, only an artificial oasis in the desert. It is probably the only community in the world supporting millions of people, that is located more than three hundred miles from an important river or large body of fresh water. Yes, this incomparable land we love so much has existed only by sufference of the desert. How close the ~~margin~~ contest has been and how narrow our margin of victory, only those closely related and concerned with water problems can appreciate.

With the completion of the Colorado River Aqueduct this year I think we can safely say that the battle is over and the desert has been pushed for all times beyond the mountains. From now on we can concentrate all of our thoughts and energies to the building up and perfecting of the great resources and assets with which nature has endowed us. The sword that has hung over our heads will henceforth be suspended, not by a single hair but by two stout cords. We will have two aqueducts drawing water from widely separated independent water sheds in entirely different climatic zones. Our great Los Angeles Aqueduct, marvelous and indispensable as it has been, is unfortunately located in the coastal climatic belt and suffered from the same dry cycle as our local sources. The Colorado River Aqueduct will draw water from 240,000 square miles of watershed, extending clear up to the roof of the continent in Colorado and Wyoming. If this country were ever plunged into modern warfare, every single one of our citizens would become acutely aware of the importance of our two great aqueducts. Giant enemy planes of the future would unquestionably have these two aqueducts as their

main objectives. The possibility that both of them would be bombed out of service at the same time is a remote contingency. It may be interesting to know that during the construction of the Colorado River Aqueduct army experts studied the location of the Aqueduct, with its many tunnels and pumping plants, from the standpoint of national defense, and from all I have been able to learn were well satisfied with the location and the design.

Perhaps you are asking in your minds, "What basis have we for the assumption that Southern California will continue to grow in the future as it has in the past?" May I answer with some personal observations and facts. Many of you here have been over the same trail that I have. Some of you were undoubtedly already here when I came to Southern California about forty years ago. Some of you probably as I did came here for reasons of health and have remained to devote your enthusiasms to your adopted land. Since coming to California in the early part of the century I have studied as intently as it was possible for me to do the question of the growth and development of Southern California. I have made frequent trips throughout the east to study the attitude of the balance of the nation toward Southern California, particularly with regard to the migration of people and industry to this area, and the markets for California products in the east. I have traveled throughout Europe to learn what the Old World has to teach us in the way of successful living and to observe the form their civilization has taken after thousands of years of experimentation. These studies and observations have left me with the conclusion that

no place in the world today has the attraction for a steady population increase possessed by Southern California. I could cite numerous statistics in support of this contention taken from the Federal census such as quoted above.

This movement westward evidenced by the unprecedented growth of this community is not a thing of change, it is the culmination of a general trend. During all the years of which we have authentic history there has been a flow of population from east to west. The population of modern Europe came from Asia. The growth of this hemisphere has come about since Columbus crossed the Atlantic in 1492 and has been from the east coast to the west coast. Whether there is any scientific reason for this flow of population following the course of the sun I do not know. The fact remains, however, that here along the Pacific coast the migration of people is looking across the broad expanse of the Pacific to the place from which they started. With no lands further west, the flow has been dammed up against the waters of the Pacific and has started a great process of concentration. I do not for a minute believe that this movement of people around the earth would have any significance were it not for the fact that we have everything here which the peoples of the earth have sought in all their movements down through the ages. We have a food supply of the highest quality and of infinite variety throughout the year. We have the life-giving all-year sunshine under climatic conditions which make possible vigorous living without the enervating effects of the tropics. Our oil, our gas, our products of our mines in infinite variety, chemical, and agricultural raw

materials of almost every description, our products of the forests and the seas, a great reserve of competent labor and growing markets for finished products, make inevitable the industrial growth and expansion which statistics reveal is already taking place. From the standpoint of recreation, which people are demanding more and more, we have every variety to be found anywhere in the world. From the seacoast to the snowcapped mountains there is a gradual transition which at some point has an appeal for every individual under the sun. The cultural foundation on which this great new civilization will be founded is manifest everywhere in Southern California. The artistry of the studios, the scientific accomplishments of Cal-Tech, the growing international recognition of musical and literary accomplishment are all manifestations of the trend.

The missing link of water is now being supplied and it only remains for us to take advantage of our opportunities and develop them to the fullest. Some of the pessimists say that this all may have been very true in the past, but population throughout the world is becoming static, migration has stopped, and there is no excess to flow to Southern California. These facts are well established. Nevertheless, Southern California will grow, probably at the expense of the balance of the nation. While population in eastern centers remains constant or actually decreases, Southern California will continue to grow as it has throughout the depression. In fact, figures are available to show that many cities in the east are actually losing population, while we are growing. An important stimulus to this trend is the modern development of old-age

pension programs. As people reach the retirement age the attractions of Southern California become irresistible. We must recognize the fact that many people in the future will retire on comparatively small monthly incomes. For that situation Southern California has an ideal solution which is clearly demonstrated in the San Fernando Valley and on the coastal plain of Los Angeles ~~County~~ of California. This type of development has been particularly interesting to me and I observed it intimately in the age-old centers of Europe. The solution is the garden acre home where people can supplement their cash income by producing a large part of the family requirements. The shorter work day and week, which is being made possible by modern machinery gives ample time for employees of all types to engage in the healthful practice of producing a large part of their food requirements. In the future you will see this type of development brought to its highest state of perfection in Southern California.

With the influx of people bringing new wealth and culture, the beautification of our cities along modern lines will inevitably follow. The time will come when this entire coastal plain will be one well-organized, artistically beautiful workshop and playground where human living can conceivably approach the ideal.

Through our motion pictures and over the radio, the glamour of Southern California is being broadcast to the world. Our fresh fruits and vegetables on the corner stands throughout the nation and canned foods on the shelves of every grocery store proclaim the richness of our land. We have had the faith and courage to remove the one lack in Nature's bounteous provision by building the greatest water supply system in the world. The Pacific Era is upon us. We are prepared for it. Surely a great Destiny awaits us.

WHT
11

Remarks by W. P. Whitsett, Chairman of the Board of Directors of The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, to the members of the Building Contractors Association meeting in the Hollywood Athletic Club on March 30, 1939.

Mr. Chairman, and members of the Building Contractors Association:

Recently I attended a meeting of the Los Angeles Realty Board at which Dr. Polyzoides of the University of Southern California was the principal speaker. One statement which he made was particularly interesting and impressive to me. He said, "Los Angeles is certainly going to be the world city of the future, the center of one thousand million human beings (including all those living around the rim of the Pacific) active, moving, progressing, and building their new civilization. Let us lay the foundation of this work. Let us think big, act big, and spend big, and the new Pacific era will be ours." I give you his actual words as reported in the newspaper. They are very significant. Dr. Polyzoides speaks as a student of world affairs. I think we can fairly say that his opinion represents a sound and impartial judgment based upon world facts.

We in Southern California have a reputation of being enthusiastic boosters. This is not an accident. The fact remains that we have something to boost about. No other area in the world has the combination of climate, soil fertility, natural resources, facilities for commerce, and the variety of health-giving opportunities for recreation as has Southern California. These advantages were present and recognized even before the white man appeared with his revolutionary developments. In 1769, 170 years ago, the dauntless Father Crespi wrote in

his diary on the first overland trip by white man in this area, arriving at the site of the present City of Los Angeles, "It has good land for planting all kinds of grain and seeds, and is the most suitable site of all that we have seen for a Mission, for it has all the requisites for a large settlement." This sentiment expressed by one of the first white men to enter the pages of Southern California history has been echoed and reechoed down through the years. Never in any country have the pioneers and their successors been so constantly imbued with a feeling that possibilities of their new land were unlimited. Something in the soil and the air and in the sunshine seems to have given them a breath of vision and the energy and enthusiasm to build in accordance with that vision. True, there have been times when the outlook was dark. When the periodical great droughts have come upon them, burning up their crops, destroying their herds by the thousands - they could feel the dry boney clutch of the desert choking out their lives. With characteristic resourcefulness and ingenuity they discovered means of making use of the priceless water which nature through countless ages had stored in the underground reservoirs. When increasing population threatened to exhaust that limited supply of water, with unprecedented vision, courage, and determination they undertook and completed the Owens Valley Aqueduct.

This year the coming of Colorado River water insures us against the fear of drought sweeping down to retard or destroy our great community. The desert has been pushed beyond the mountains for all time. In all the many years since I came to Southern California I have never for one moment felt that we

were approaching the end of our development. With all the growth that lies behind us we have just begun. Our resources and our opportunities have only been scratched. It is all too easy, especially in troublesome times, when business is poor and taxes are high, when conflict and hatred prevail at home and abroad, to think that we have come to an end. We are like people walking in a dark tunnel who can see no opening ahead. Under such circumstances the best way to clear the mind and recapture the vision is to review the trail along which we have come. Anyone who can travel page by page down the history of Southern California and not feel that a still greater future lies ahead is indeed lacking in vision.

Personally, I am absolutely in accord with Dr. Polyzoides. I think the time will come when on the coastal plain of Southern California will exist the greatest city of all time and the highest level of civilization the world has known. I will undertake to tell you in the few minutes remaining some of the reasons why I think this is so.

In the first place, we now have the water upon which our daily existence depends. Industrialists seeking to locate in this area are no longer concerned as to whether their expensive plants will have to be shut down or curtailed because of water shortage.

Next, whether we realize it or not, we are growing daily and have grown all through the depression. I think the 1940 census will be a pleasant surprise to many of our pessimists.

A good index of growth is water consumption. In

spite of the depressed conditions the water consumption in the City of Los Angeles in the last five years increased by nine billion, one hundred-fifty million gallons per year. The increases in water consumption among the thirteen cities in the Metropolitan Water District ranged up to 76% in the same period.

In the past 16 years Los Angeles County has grown from 37th to 5th place in the value of its manufactured products, and in the same period increased its production from 21% to 40% of the total within the State. It is interesting to note that no single group of manufacturing employs more than 6% of the factory workers. This is significant as indicating how diversified our economy is eventually becoming. Our development is not lopsided, but well balanced and integrated. In the past two years 22 nationally-known manufacturers located plants in Los Angeles County and 26 made plant expansions.

Mr. Don Thomas of the All-Year Club has pointed out recently some very significant facts that have a bearing upon the growth of Southern California. These facts are of especial interest and concern to the home building industry. From his exhaustive studies he reports that out-of-state visitors spend in California about two hundred and eighty-nine million dollars a year. He has also found that over a period of time one of every ten tourists to California returns to locate in this State and contributes to the investment and building up of this area. Eighty-five out of every one hundred homes built for owner occupancy are built by ex-tourists. The prosperity of the building industry clearly depends to a very large extent on

our great ability to draw people from every part of the nation.

As indicating what we may expect in the way of continued growth, the 1930 census reveals the following significant facts:

In the first ten years of this century Los Angeles County received one out of eight of all persons migrating to the eleven western states. In the second ten years, to 1920, this increased to one out of every five. And in the period from 1920 to 1930, two out of every five moving to the eleven western states settled in Los Angeles County.

Many do not realize that the Los Angeles metropolitan area has increased from 30,000 to about two and one-half millions in the short space of fifty years. This increase represents a greater number of people than the population of the States of Oregon, Montana, Wyoming, Nevada, and Arizona all put together. California has more citizens from other states than any other state in the Union and at the same time has the smallest percentage of her native born living in other states. This shows that we are not only able to attract more from elsewhere than any other state, but succeed in holding our own native born.

Some of our pessimistic friends have stated that while all of this has been true in the past, that things are changed and that the future will be different. They say that the national rate of population increase is constantly diminishing and that consequently growth is becoming static. Stuart Chase in a recent article discusses this question very sanely and comprehensively. He points out that while population is rapidly leveling off, there are new social forces now in

operation which will cause real estate in the future to be in brisk demand in Southern California and in Florida, contrary to the demand for real estate generally. As the average age level increases, due to the declining birth rate, the desire and incentive to move to a congenial climate will increase. The rapid extension of old age pension plans will naturally accelerate this movement. As people are able to retire, the lure of Southern California will become proportionately greater.

As an indication of one of the forces operating to increase population in Southern California, we need only consider the aviation industry. This industry is scouring the country to obtain qualified workmen, particularly the industrial centers of the east. They have no expectation of obtaining men qualified in aviation work because such men are already at work, but are seeking men who have obtained their mechanical experience in the manufacture of automobiles and other industries. A few days ago the newspaper reported that within a short time 2500 additional men would be put to work in the aviation plants of Southern California.

As an illustration of what is happening, we have the Consolidated Aircraft Company in San Diego. When they moved out to their present location in that city, a large part of their staff and workmen, together with their families, followed the plant. For months after they started operation it was interesting to observe that nine out of ten cars parked along the streets bore New York license plates.

We must remember that the industry is just in its

infancy. It is in the position today that railroads were one hundred years ago. In those days railroad wrecks were frequent and travel so hazardous that only the more courageous or reckless people dared to use them. This industry will undoubtedly continue to grow and will become increasingly localized just as the motion picture industry in the favorable environment of Southern California.

To mention another industry which has great potentialities of drawing people to Southern California, there is television. Undoubtedly, this development will of necessity be closely related to the moving picture industry. Consider what it would mean to Southern California if the investment and employment paid by the moving picture industry were to be doubled or even become only half again as great.

In a similar vein any student of industry could go on to cite other equally pertinent illustrations. We have just begun to develop our basic industries. The hardest part of our development to achieve is now behind us. We have left the toddling stage. Never before have we had the population and the resources of power and water to offer security and inducement to industry. Colorado River water and large quantities of cheap hydro-electric power will offer attractions to basic industries just as the magnet draws the steel.

Recently I read an economic report compiled by an authentic source in Washington, D. C. which stated in effect that barring war, the economic outlook is today better and more healthy than at any time in the past decade. It went on to state that an enormous gain has been effected in that virtually

all elements now admit that business alone and not the Government can achieve national well-being. This means that venturesome men and hesitant established business may again lift up their eyes.

The eyes of the world are on California. The Pacific era is at hand. With an ample, dependable, controlled water supply; with an abundance of hydro-electric power; with an ever-increasing traveling public, daily discovering our manifold advantages; with the Government returning to those sound economic fundamentals which made America great, population and industry are again on the march.

Lift up your eyes. Look about you. See what it means to again double our growth and development in ten years as we did every ten years from 1900 to 1930.

WHT
11

Remarks by W. P. Whitsett, Chairman of the Board of Directors of The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, at the Advisory Council meeting of The All-Year Club of Southern California, Ltd., December 11, 1939.

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA -- EMPIRE IN A DESERT

These pictures we have just seen reveal an amazing contrast between Southern California in the early days and the Southern California as we know it today here in 1939. Imagine the contrast if Cabrillo, sailing along our coast in the pleasant fall of 1542, had been able to take motion pictures for us of the empty wilderness that stretched before him to the mountain tops. It would seem in looking back over the long trail we have come since that time that a great empire has miraculously arisen in spite of nature and the rules of man to the contrary. That is to say we are building our homes, engaged in the task of making our living, enjoying the fragrance of orange blossoms and the shade of palm trees in the midst of a sound and beautiful empire which would never have happened if nature had not been given a lot of help by the hand of man. Most great cities -- New York, Chicago, Philadelphia, Detroit, and others were helped to growth and greatness by some great natural advantage -- a harbor, a river, a favorable location with respect to trade routes which eventually developed into a rail or a shipping center. Los Angeles, now the fifth largest and with next year's census completed perhaps the fourth largest city in America, had none of these natural assets. When Jedediah Smith, our first American visitor or tourist, came overland to California in 1826 he found a very sketchy civilization compared to what we know today. While giving due

credit to the poetic writers for their pictures of California in the days of the dons when tinkling guitars, dashing caballeros and gayly clad senoritas filled the land -- let's be practical enough to admit they didn't fill the land at all. There were fiestas, of course, from time to time at the villages or the great ranchos when all the population for hundreds of miles around would arrive on horseback or in rumbling carts at the scene of the celebration. But for the most part, Southern California in 1826 was a land where the few and widely scattered people worked tremendously hard and enjoyed few comforts and conveniences as we understand them today. The houses were made of sun-dried bricks, there were no glass window panes to keep out the wind, the weather, or the insects. For the most part beds were wooden frames laced with rawhide with a few Indian blankets thrown down on top -- instead of Beauty Rest mattresses. The chairs were rough hewn benches without paint or other adornment. Heat was supplied by inadequate fireplaces, for while Ben Franklin had invented the furnace in Philadelphia news of it had not yet reached Southern California -- and if it had the steel mills down at Torrance weren't built so the pioneers would have had to do without the furnaces anyway. Floors were generally the bare earth, not polished hardwood with thick rugs or linoleum. Breakfast, I am told, consisted of a bowl of atole, a thick gruel or porridge, - not ham and eggs, and for lunch there was more atole, sometimes with vegetables or meat in it, the addition of vegetables or meat varied with the season of the year and whether these extra ingredients were available because there was no cold storage and

no canned goods in those days. Supper, by way of variety, was another bowl of atole. I don't think so many of us would have left our relatively comfortable eastern homes for California's charm in those days. And yet within the space of 113 years we have built one of the world's great empires. What brought about this great change? Certainly not our harbor -- for we had none until we dug it out of the mud flats. Certainly not our lakes or rivers, for California was dust all summer and muddy in the winter. Certainly not our strategic location, for we were 3,000 miles away from the center of population and at the end of the line as far as any kind of shipping in those days was concerned. Then what was the magic formula by which this whole area was changed? What made the formula for the growth of Los Angeles different from that of other great cities? In many cities population followed industry or the opportunity for industry. Here we find industry, cultural development and so on followed population. In 1860, eleven years after the gold rush, the population of Los Angeles was less than five thousand. San Francisco had 56,000, New York had one million and three-quarters, Philadelphia had better than half a million. By 1880, the population of Los Angeles had nearly trebled. By 1890 it exceeded 50,000, an increase of more than 400 per cent in ten years. By 1900 it had doubled again. The 1900 census shows the population of Los Angeles to be 102,479. The next decade, 1900 to 1910, trebled our population and by 1920 we had 576,000 Los Angeles citizens. A few minutes from now Don Thomas, I suppose, will make these figures look like chicken feed when he

tells you how many tourists he and his splendid staff through their activities have brought to Southern California this past year. Judging by the record of the past few years it will probably be in the neighborhood of a million and a half tourist visitors each year -- three times the entire population of Los Angeles in 1920. Still that figure of 576,000 population in that year shows how Los Angeles grew and how PEOPLE were a big factor in helping us to make a blooming paradise out of an empty desert wilderness.

After the people arrived, and not until then, did industry begin to locate in Southern California. Frank Sieberling, then head of the Goodyear Tire & Rubber Company, was the first to discover that our growing population of Southern California merited the location here of one of his branch plants. This was the first of the many big branch plants that are now in Los Angeles County, and it came here as recently as 1918. Other branch tire factories, steel plants and auto assembly plants followed. Now the Los Angeles area is recognized as the fifth best consumer market in the United States. For the farm country around, the population growth has brought prosperity. Authorities rate Los Angeles the second best market in the country for the consumption of fresh fruits and vegetables. Only New York is ahead.

In the meantime, back in April, 1908, a courageous and far-sighted group of Los Angeles citizens had stood on a bluff overlooking San Pedro Bay. In imagination they visualized long miles of docks, warehouses, freight sheds, industrial plants with ships of the nations coming and going. Far-seeing as those men were,

I doubt that the vision of any one of them even approached the growth and development which actually took place. On August 28, 1909, San Pedro and Wilmington were consolidated with the City of Los Angeles. And though San Franciscans smugly scoffed and ridiculed the leaders of the project -- asking if they were keeping the Los Angeles harbor well watered -- they had to stop their scoffing when the man-made harbor of Los Angeles passed the tonnage figures of San Francisco, a tonnage lead it has held ever since.

I have a very vivid recollection of the rivalry and feeling which existed in those years.

After some of the mud had been dredged out of what we call the Los Angeles Harbor and facilities were made ready for shipping, we found we had no ships so we organized the Los Angeles Steamship Company and acquired two ships which were given the names "City of Los Angeles" and "City of Honolulu" in honor of the terminals of the new line. For the maiden trip of the City of Los Angeles, Frank Wiggins got together a shipload of our leading citizens as a good will party to drum up an exchange of tourists and freight business with the Hawaiian Islands. It was my privilege to go on that trip as one of the boosters of the new enterprise. In the Islands we were received with open arms as deliverers from the shipping monopoly of San Francisco. On the return, my family and I took the City of Honolulu, which, you will probably recall, caught fire and burned at sea on its maiden voyage. Between two and three hundred of us took to the life boats one morning and were picked

up late that afternoon by the tramp freighter McFarland on its way to China with a cargo of cedar poles and coal oil. The next day we were transferred to the transport Thomas on its way to San Francisco from the Philippine Islands loaded with officers and soldiers. Before reaching San Francisco a press boat came along side with some 25 or 30 correspondents and photographers from the San Francisco newspapers and press association representatives. To them it was a great lark to catch such a bunch of distinguished Los Angeles citizens in disarray and with misfit, borrowed clothing, whose upstart venture into the shipping industry had come to grief at the outset, and they proceeded to make the most of it. They seemed to take a fiendish delight in photographing us at our worst. I happened to be standing on deck close to a group of these correspondents and overheard them discussing a plan to give us the works when we reached San Francisco. Their scheme, as I gathered it, was to meet us at the wharf in San Francisco with brass bands, present us with new apparel and parade us up Market Street to the Southern Pacific Station and ship us off by train to our mud flat harbor. You can imagine the capital which they would have made at our expense in the newspapers throughout the nation. Immediately I hurried to the radio operator and wired Frank Wiggins, giving him an account of what I had heard and requesting him to seek Harry Chandler's influence in getting the Secretary of the Navy to have the S. S. Thomas docked at San Pedro. Just when I was about to give up hope of getting any action and when we were almost in sight of the Golden Gate, I noticed a great commotion

among the officers of the ship and finally we began to change our course to the south. I thought for awhile there would be a mutiny on the ship among the officers and the men who had friends waiting for them at the dock in San Francisco, but we landed finally at San Pedro with our dignity intact and another milestone was passed in the history of the Harbor.

But to return to the growth of Los Angeles and Southern California.

Only in one way did Los Angeles deviate from the formula which dictated that industry, culture and progress follows population. That was in the matter of water supply. Naturally Los Angeles, growing as it was, couldn't wait for the people to come out and then build a water supply. If we did that the population might have died of thirst while industrial progress and agricultural development would have been at a standstill for lack of power and of water for irrigation. It was, in fact, the discovery of the Los Angeles River that brought about the establishment of Los Angeles in 1771 and in recognition of the importance of the water of this stream to the life and growth of the new community, the ownership to all the water of the Los Angeles River was officially granted to the pueblo for all time in a royal proclamation by Carlos III of Spain. If you go down to Olvera Street you can still see the Zanja Madre or Mother Ditch, built by the people of the little pueblo which ran from the River to the vicinity of the old Plaza. History tells us that the Indian woman who dipped the water from the canal to be carried to the several households was the City's first municipal

employee. Later, the water-carrying Indian women were replaced by men who devised a method of delivering each family its quota of water by means of a barrel swung between the handles of a wheelbarrow. Still later these barrels were succeeded by an ox-drawn water cart. This might be recorded as the first appearance of the water wagon in the City of Los Angeles.

In recent years the Los Angeles River has been pictured by local citizens and visiting critics as a stream whose bed must be sprinkled regularly to keep down the dust, but despite all of this fun at our expense the fact remains that except for a few scattered wells the Los Angeles River for a period of 133 years served as the sole water source of this community.

Water has been the outstanding bottle-neck, the limiting factor in the growth of this area. Its lack has been the skeleton in our closet and the ghost at our banquet. In 1905, with a population of 160,000, Los Angeles suddenly was confronted with a serious water shortage. Bill Mulholland, Chief Engineer of the municipal water bureau, pushed across the desert in a buckboard looking for an additional water supply and came whooping back, saying he had found it in the snow-fed streams on the east slope of Mt. Whitney, 250 miles away, enough water he claimed for a city of a million souls. The idea of building an aqueduct longer than had ever been constructed before captured the imagination of our leaders and people who did not know fear and refused to recognize an obstacle that stood in the way of the progress of this city they had founded on the desert. They solved the problem of storing water until the population of a million should need it by placing

it to productive use on the floor of the San Fernando Valley. This area, larger than all the rest of the city, was annexed because it offered natural underground storage from which the city could pump the water as it was needed after it had been put to use growing foodstuffs which the people needed.

All thought the water problem had been solved for all time. Even Bill Mulholland with his splendid vision thought we had enough water for 75 years. But when the city hit the one million figure in the 20's it was just around the corner from a water shortage. With no other source available we had to turn to the abundant Colorado River and set about making the plans for the $220,000,000 Metropolitan Aqueduct which will supply the water needs of 2,000 square miles of our coastal area, embracing homes and gardens and industry and commerce for an ultimate population within this century of over ten million people, probably making this the largest community in the world. E. H. Herriman, the railroad empire builder, after an inspection trip to Southern California, was so impressed with the growth resulting from the building of the Owens River Aqueduct that he O.K.'d the building of the Pacific Electric Railroad across the Pass into the San Fernando Valley and sent his engineers on to the San Juan, tributary of the Colorado, to see if a gravity route could be found to bring the waters of the San Juan River to the coastal plain of Southern California, and stated at a banquet given in his honor in New York that in 100 years from now it would not be Paris, London, New York or Chicago that would be the largest city in the world, but Los Angeles, provided she could get the water to grow on -- we have the water.

I am telling you this so that you will know you can carry on your established and proved formula of growth, knowing that the thousands attracted to us through the community's method of bringing about selective immigration, will have electricity chrned from the mighty Colorado River on its way down to the sea from the mighty backbone of the continent, and that their drinking glasses will always be filled with the melted snows from those mighty peaks.

Once more Southern California has reversed the rule that population shall precede progress.

In the supply of water, we have made provision not only for the population we have, but for that which we know is on the way. We are READY -- with stream-lined, modern methods to follow through with the progress that began when the first tourists visited this land of sunshine. Those tourists, returning home, were stricken with a strange longing for the pleasant land by the Pacific shore. They sold their holdings, packed their belongings, and moved WEST. They invested their capital, their brains and their ambition in the building of this new empire.

Tourists today are doing the same thing.

With the glamour of Hollywood star-dust, like an all-year Christmas tree, attracting the eyes of the world toward Southern California; with our irresistible climate and scenery -- backed by the sound economic structure built by a patriotic citizenry and proclaimed by our ALL-YEAR CLUB, we face the future undaunted.

Europe is in its death struggle. The Era of our

Atlantic Seaboard is on the decline. Civilization's westward trek continues. The Pacific Era is dawning. Let us awaken from the lethargy of depression and realize that destiny is calling to us to make Los Angeles the World Wonder City of Tomorrow.

WHT
11

Remarks by W. P. Whitsett, Chairman of the Board of Directors of The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, at the luncheon meeting of the Los Angeles Realty Board, Ambassador Hotel, March 9, 1939.

Mr. Chairman, and members of the Los Angeles Realty Board:

Most of you here heard Dr. Polyzoides say at the annual banquet of the Los Angeles Realty Board that "This is certainly going to be the world city of the future, the center of one thousand million human beings, (living around the rim of the Pacific) active, moving, progressing, and building their new civilization. Let us lay the foundation of this work. Let us think big, act big, and spend big, and the new Pacific era will be ours." I give you his actual words as reported in the newspaper. They are very significant. Dr. Polyzoides speaks as a student of world affairs. I think we can fairly say that his opinion represents a qualified, impartial judgment based upon World facts.

We in Southern California have a reputation of being enthusiastic boosters. This is not an accident. The fact remains that we have something to boost about. No other area in the world has the combination of climate, soil fertility, natural resources, facilities for commerce, and the variety of health-giving opportunities for recreation as has Southern California. These advantages were present and recognized even before the white man appeared with his revolutionary developments. In 1769, 170 years ago, the dauntless Father Crespi wrote in his diary on the first overland trip by white man in this area, arriving at the site of the present City of Los Angeles, "It has good land for planting all kinds of grain and seeds, and is the most suitable site of all that we have seen for a Mission, for it has all the requisites for a large settlement." This sentiment expressed by one of the first white men to enter the pages of Southern California history has been echoed and reechoed down through the years. Never in any country have the pioneers and their successors been so constantly imbued with a feeling that the possibilities of their new land were unlimited. Something in the soil and the air and in the sunshine seems to have given them a breath of vision and the energy and enthusiasm to build in accordance with that vision. True, there have been times when the outlook was dark. When the periodical great droughts have come upon them, burning up their crops, destroying their herds by the thousands - they could feel the dry boney clutch of the desert choking out their lives. With characteristic resourcefulness and ingenuity they discovered means of making use of the priceless water which nature through countless ages had stored in the underground reservoirs. When increasing population threatened to exhaust that limited supply of water, with unprecedented vision, courage, and determination they undertook and completed the Owens Valley Aqueduct.

This year the coming of Colorado River water insures us against the fear of drought sweeping down to retard or destroy our great community. The desert has been pushed beyond the mountains for all time. In all the many years since I came to Southern California I have never for one moment felt that we were approaching the end of our development. With all the growth that lies behind us we have just begun. Our resources and our opportunities have only been scratched. It is all too easy, especially in troublesome times, when business is poor and taxes are high, when conflict and hatred prevail at home and abroad, to think that we have come to an end. We are like people walking in a dark tunnel who can see no opening ahead. Under such circumstances the best way to clear the mind and recapture the vision is to review the trail along which we have come. Anyone who can travel page by page down the history of Southern California and not feel that a still greater future lies ahead is indeed lacking in vision.

Personally, I am absolutely in accord with Dr. Polyzoides. I think the time will come when on the coastal plain of Southern California will exist the greatest city of all time and the highest level of civilization the world has known. I will undertake to tell you in the few minutes remaining some of the reasons why I think this is so.

In the first place, we now have the water upon which our daily existence depends. Industrialists seeking to locate in this area are no longer concerned as to whether their expensive plants will have to be shut down or curtailed because of water shortage.

Next, whether we realize it or not, we are growing daily and have grown all through the depression. I think the 1940 census will be a pleasant surprise to many of our pessimists.

A good index of growth is water consumption. In spite of the depressed conditions the water consumption in the City of Los Angeles in the last five years increased by nine billion, one hundred-fifty million gallons per year. The increases in water consumption among the thirteen cities in the Metropolitan Water District ranged up to 76% in the same period.

In the past 16 years Los Angeles County has grown from 37th to 5th place in the value of its manufactured products, and in the same period increased its production from 21% to 40% of the total within the State. It is interesting to note that no single group of manufacturing employs more than 6% of the factory workers. This is significant as indicating how

diversified our economy is eventually becoming. Our development is not lopsided, but well balanced and integrated. In the past two years 22 nationally-known manufacturers located plants in Los Angeles County and 26 made plant expansions.

Mr. Don Thomas of the All-Year Club has pointed out recently some very significant facts that have a bearing upon the growth of Southern California. From his exhaustive studies he reports that out-of-state visitors spend in California about two hundred, eighty-nine million dollars a year. He has also found that over a period of time one of every ten tourists to California returns to locate in this State and contributes to the investment and building up of this area. Eighty-five out of every one hundred homes built for owner occupancy are built by ex-tourists.

As indicating what we may expect in the way of continued growth, the 1930 census reveals the following significant facts:

In the first ten years of this century Los Angeles County received one out of eight of all persons migrating to the eleven western states. In the second ten years, to 1920, this increased to one out of every five. And in the period from 1920 to 1930, two out of every five moving to the eleven western states settled in Los Angeles County.

Many do not realize that the Los Angeles metropolitan area has increased from 30,000 to about two and one-half millions in the short space of fifty years. This increase represents a greater number of people than the population of the States of Oregon, Montana, Wyoming, Nevada, and Arizona all put together. California has more citizens from other states than any other state in the Union and at the same time has the smallest percentage of her native born living in other states. This shows that we are not only able to attract more from elsewhere than any other state, but succeed in holding our own native born.

Some of our pessimistic friends have stated that while all of this has been true in the past, that things are changed and that the future will be different. They say that the national rate of population increase is constantly diminishing and that consequently growth is becoming static. Stuart Chase in a recent article discusses this question very sanely and comprehensively. He points out that while population is rapidly leveling off, there are new social forces now in operation which will cause real estate in the future to be in brisk demand in Southern California and in Florida, contrary to the demand for real estate generally. As the

average age level increases, due to the declining birth rate, the desire and incentive to move to a congenial climate will increase. The rapid extension of old age pension plans will naturally accelerate this movement. As people are able to retire, the lure of Southern California will become proportionately greater.

As a final justification for optimism, let me quote from an authentic economic report just out of Washington. - Barring war, the economic outlook is better, more healthy, than at any other time in the past decade. It is an enormous gain that virtually all organized elements now admit that business alone and not the Government can achieve national well-being. This means that venturesome men and hesitant established business may again lift up their eyes. -

The eyes of the World are on California. The Pacific era is at hand. With an ample, dependable, controlled water supply; with an abundance of hydro-electric power; with an ever-increasing traveling public, daily discovering our manifold advantages; with the Government returning to those sound economic fundamentals which made America great, population and industry are again on the march.

Lift up your eyes. Look about you. See what it means to again double our growth and development in ten years as we did every ten years from 1900 to 1930.

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WHT
11

Remarks by W. P. Whitsett, Chairman of the Board of Directors of The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, to the members of the Building Contractors Association meeting in the Hollywood Athletic Club on March 30, 1939.

Mr. Chairman, and members of the Building Contractors Association:

Recently I attended a meeting of the Los Angeles Realty Board at which Dr. Polyzoides of the University of Southern California was the principal speaker. One statement which he made was particularly interesting and impressive to me. He said, "Los Angeles is certainly going to be the world city of the future, the center of one thousand million human beings (including all those living around the rim of the Pacific) active, moving, progressing, and building their new civilization. Let us lay the foundation of this work. Let us think big, act big, and spend big, and the new Pacific era will be ours." I give you his actual words as reported in the newspaper. They are very significant. Dr. Polyzoides speaks as a student of world affairs. I think we can fairly say that his opinion represents a sound and impartial judgment based upon world facts.

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his diary on the first overland trip by white man in this area, arriving at the site of the present City of Los Angeles, "It has good land for planting all kinds of grain and seeds, and is the most suitable site of all that we have seen for a Mission, for it has all the requisites for a large settlement." This sentiment expressed by one of the first white men to enter the pages of Southern California history has been echoed and reechoed down through the years. Never in any country have the pioneers and their successors been so constantly imbued with a feeling that possibilities of their new land were unlimited. Something in the soil and the air and in the sunshine seems to have given them a breath of vision and the energy and enthusiasm to build in accordance with that vision. True, there have been times when the outlook was dark. When the periodical great droughts have come upon them, burning up their crops, destroying their herds by the thousands - they could feel the dry boney clutch of the desert choking out their lives. With characteristic resourcefulness and ingenuity they discovered means of making use of the priceless water which nature through countless ages had stored in the underground reservoirs. When increasing population threatened to exhaust that limited supply of water, with unprecedented vision, courage, and determination they undertook and completed the Owens Valley Aqueduct.

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spite of the depressed conditions the water consumption in the City of Los Angeles in the last five years increased by nine billion, one hundred-fifty million gallons per year. The increases in water consumption among the thirteen cities in the Metropolitan Water District ranged up to 76% in the same period.

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Mr. Don Thomas of the All-Year Club has pointed out recently some very significant facts that have a bearing upon the growth of Southern California. These facts are of especial interest and concern to the home building industry. From his exhaustive studies he reports that out-of-state visitors spend in California about two hundred and eighty-nine million dollars a year. He has also found that over a period of time one of every ten tourists to California returns to locate in this State and contributes to the investment and building up of this area. Eighty-five out of every one hundred homes built for owner occupancy are built by ex-tourists. The prosperity of the building industry clearly depends to a very large extent on

our great ability to draw people from every part of the nation.

As indicating what we may expect in the way of continued growth, the 1930 census reveals the following significant facts:

In the first ten years of this century Los Angeles County received one out of eight of all persons migrating to the eleven western states. In the second ten years, to 1920, this increased to one out of every five. And in the period from 1920 to 1930, two out of every five moving to the eleven western states settled in Los Angeles County.

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Some of our pessimistic friends have stated that while all of this has been true in the past, that things are changed and that the future will be different. They say that the national rate of population increase is constantly diminishing and that consequently growth is becoming static. Stuart Chase in a recent article discusses this question very sanely and comprehensively. He points out that while population is rapidly leveling off, there are new social forces now in

operation which will cause real estate in the future to be in brisk demand in Southern California and in Florida, contrary to the demand for real estate generally. As the average age level increases, due to the declining birth rate, the desire and incentive to move to a congenial climate will increase. The rapid extension of old age pension plans will naturally accelerate this movement. As people are able to retire, the lure of Southern California will become proportionately greater.

As an indication of one of the forces operating to increase population in Southern California, we need only consider the aviation industry. This industry is scouring the country to obtain qualified workmen, particularly the industrial centers of the east. They have no expectation of obtaining men qualified in aviation work because such men are already at work, but are seeking men who have obtained their mechanical experience in the manufacture of automobiles and other industries. A few days ago the newspaper reported that within a short time 2500 additional men would be put to work in the aviation plants of Southern California.

As an illustration of what is happening, we have the Consolidated Aircraft Company in San Diego. When they moved out to their present location in that city, a large part of their staff and workmen, together with their families, followed the plant. For months after they started operation it was interesting to observe that nine out of ten cars parked along the streets bore New York license plates.

We must remember that the industry is just in its

infancy. It is in the position today that railroads were one hundred years ago. In those days railroad wrecks were frequent and travel so hazardous that only the more courageous or reckless people dared to use them. This industry will undoubtedly continue to grow and will become increasingly localized just as the motion picture industry in the favorable environment of Southern California.

To mention another industry which has great potentialities of drawing people to Southern California, there is television. Undoubtedly, this development will of necessity be closely related to the moving picture industry. Consider what it would mean to Southern California if the investment and employment paid by the moving picture industry were to be doubled or even become only half again as great.

In a similar vein any student of industry could go on to cite other equally pertinent illustrations. We have just begun to develop our basic industries. The hardest part of our development to achieve is now behind us. We have left the toddling stage. Never before have we had the population and the resources of power and water to offer security and inducement to industry. Colorado River water and large quantities of cheap hydro-electric power will offer attractions to basic industries just as the magnet draws the steel.

Recently I read an economic report compiled by an authentic source in Washington, D. C. which stated in effect that barring war, the economic outlook is today better and more healthy than at any time in the past decade. It went on to state that an enormous gain has been effected in that virtually

all elements now admit that business alone and not the Government can achieve national well-being. This means that venturesome men and hesitant established business may again lift up their eyes.

The eyes of the world are on California. The Pacific era is at hand. With an ample, dependable, controlled water supply; with an abundance of hydro-electric power; with an ever-increasing traveling public, daily discovering our manifold advantages; with the Government returning to those sound economic fundamentals which made America great, population and industry are again on the march.

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WHT
11

The future of Southern California in the light
of observations of Eastern Metropolitan Cities
by
W. P. Whitsett
Chairman, Board of Directors of
The Metropolitan Water District
of Southern California

It is always good to come home. But after a complete tour of these United States - relaxing in the languorous atmosphere of tropical Florida, visiting the high spots of the Eastern Seaboard, motoring through historic New England, taking in the Fairs at New York and San Francisco, and points between - I am more convinced than ever before that the most fortunate man in America is the man who comes home to Southern California.

This statement is not prompted by the natural way one feels for one's home - nor by an over-developed sense of loyalty - nor yet by a desire to uphold our reputation as boosters. Rather, it is made in calm deliberation after careful observation of ALL conditions wherever I have traveled - observations which have made me realize how many sections of our country are outmoded in architecture and transportation facilities - how many of our great cities are top-heavy with intricate devices in the attempt to adapt the conditions of the slow and simple village blacksmith days to our fast and complicated motor age - and how, of all the metropolitan areas in this great land, that of Los Angeles is best designed to meet the requirements of that fabulous "World of Tomorrow," so ably and glamorously depicted at the New York World's Fair.

We are in an era of rapid and drastic change - of inventions so numerous and diverse that, for one of my conservative years and ideas, to see them all combined and demonstrated as at our World's Fairs, is like the awakening of Rip Van Winkle after his twenty-years' sleep in those peaceful hills beside the quiet-flowing Hudson.

One exhibit in particular has "stolen the show" in New York. It is that of General Motors in which one tours across the United States of 1960 - complete in diorama and seen from a moving platform while explanations of each scene come through an individual speaker beside your comfortable chair.

In this vivid portrayal of the country twenty years hence, rapid transportation on fool-proof highways is the point of emphasis. No longer are cities crowded or traffic congested. The City of 1960 is spread out over a large area - with parks and trees, playgrounds and great amusement centers with ample parking space for cars that travel at 100 miles per hour over divided, many-laned highways with no left-hand turns or grade crossings. These arterial highways are fed by an

inflow from side roads so designed as not to slow down cars on the main thoroughfare. Likewise, motor cars leave the arterial highway without interference with the main line of traffic. So perfectly has this ideal system of motor transportation been worked out to combine speed and safety, that the suburban home of tomorrow may enjoy every convenience of the city without that dreadful spectre of the "traffic jam" which today wears our nerves and threatens our lives.

"But," you may say, "that is an artist's portrayal of an engineer's dream." True, that is what I saw in actuality. And in my knowledge of the physical limitations of many of our leading cities today, I realized how impossible it would be for them to realize that dream. But, this is the point I want to make clear. It is - that our own Los Angeles, spread out as it is over 450 square miles, and the contiguous cities of this great metropolitan area with over 600,000 adjoining undeveloped acres, are made to order for the development of a highway system which will fit us perfectly into that ideal "World of Tomorrow."

It is that "World of Tomorrow" for which in part we have built the Colorado River Aqueduct - that community of the future here in Southern California of millions of people who may live in God's sunshine on Nature's fresh foods amid serene surroundings with close proximity to all of the art, culture, and commercial advantages of modern civilization.

On my recent visit to New York for the purpose of getting a first-hand picture of transportation facilities, I hired an automobile and drove over a thousand miles, taking in the main highways in and about New York and Boston. It was most interesting to see the splendid way these two cities have worked out their main arterial highways to avoid congestion and facilitate speed and safety. New York particularly has done a magnificent job within the limitations of its site in developing a system of parkways leading to and from principal suburbs and connecting these through the Hendrick Hudson and East River Drives with the very heart of the City. The Triborough Bridge connecting Queens, the Bronx and Manhattan by many-laned boulevards over intricate winding bridges is a masterpiece of engineering. This ingenious highway system, augmented by subways, elevated, ferries and boats makes possible the commutation of millions who go daily from Westchester, Long Island and Jersey to office and factory in New York. But one trip, by any of these ways of transportation on a hot summer day, will convince the thoughtful observer that the limit of population concentration in this region has been reached. To pass miles of apartment houses with pale women and fragile

children leaning out of windows to get a breath of air - air so full of smoke and dust that it envelops the city in a cloud visible for many miles distant as one approaches New York from the open sea; to listen to the constant rumble of traffic that jars nerves until the finer senses are dulled; to travel block after block with never a sprig of green to please the eye - all this is bound to impress one with the fact that the alert youth, with the will and ability to better his conditions, will never remain in such surroundings. His grandfather sighed wistfully as he heard of the spacious green acres of fine estates on the Hudson - but they were only for the wealthy!

The youth today knows it is possible to have a modern bungalow with a garden acre where life can be lived fully and richly with moderate means, and he knows he does not have to endure the confinement of the city to enjoy the advantages his grandfather sought there. Modern devices have given to the suburban, and even the rural home, light, automatic heat and all the electrical gadgets which, a few years ago, made the apartment so desirable. The radio has abolished that loneliness and isolation once the bug-a-boo of the country. The automobile has given the country boy that sense of freedom and speed he once sought in the city. And the movie has carried to every community center the glamor which once belonged to Broadway alone. All these innovations have completely changed our American mode of life. The conditions which compelled great masses of people to huddle together in congested areas in order to put themselves in contact with the rest of the world no longer exist. There is today no sane reason for such concentration of population as built New York and similar cities.

Furthermore, the youth with initiative and ability knows from the education he was compelled to take and from the newspapers he peddles on busy streets, that he need not be snowbound all winter - nor swelter in a crowded tenement all summer. He has heard a lot about this magic land of California with its friendly year-around climate and he is going to see and know it for himself. He belongs to the world of tomorrow and he will recognize Southern California as the best place in which to make that world come true.

It is up to us to clean up the slums we have (and they are so small compared with those in other cities of our size), convert them into parks to beautify our city and into auto parking places which will maintain the values of our best downtown districts. It is up to us to work out here in Southern California our traffic problems to include not only our present cities, but to make easily and safely accessible

those 600,000 acres which can be developed with the additional supply of water which the Colorado River Aqueduct will soon deliver. With abundant water and an Al system of highways, we will invite the building of workmen's homes on garden acres where production for use is practical, and of gentlemen's estates where families may live as in the English countryside or on the Hudson, with easy access to the city. Naturally, we must preserve those metropolitan values created by the foresight and patience of our leaders. This can best be done by an immediate and far-sighted planning of our traffic and water systems - with full realization of the futility of copying plans which were made necessary by such congested areas as about Manhattan.

It is absolutely essential that we of the metropolitan area of Southern California realize that we are in a class by ourselves. No other area of like population lends itself so admirably to ultra-modern development.

Unprecedented vision and indomitable courage built our present aqueduct and made possible our tremendous growth. We are exemplifying that same vision and courage in building the Colorado River Aqueduct which will again remove our limitations.

The same vision, used in the distribution of Colorado River water and in the solution of our traffic problems, will weave our entire coastal plain into a single population unit which may well be the ideal of "The World of Tomorrow."

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June 30, 1939

WHT
7

Remarks by W. P. Whitsett, Chairman of the Board of Directors of The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, at the luncheon meeting of the Los Angeles Realty Board, Ambassador Hotel, March 9, 1939.

Mr. Chairman, and members of the Los Angeles Realty Board:

Most of you here heard Dr. Polyzoides say at the annual banquet of the Los Angeles Realty Board that "This is certainly going to be the world city of the future, the center of one thousand million human beings, (living around the rim of the Pacific) active, moving, progressing, and building their new civilization. Let us lay the foundation of this work. Let us think big, act big, and spend big, and the new Pacific era will be ours." I give you his actual words as reported in the newspaper. They are very significant. Dr. Polyzoides speaks as a student of world affairs. I think we can fairly say that his opinion represents a qualified, impartial judgment based upon World facts.

We in Southern California have a reputation of being enthusiastic boosters. This is not an accident. The fact remains that we have something to boost about. No other area in the world has the combination of climate, soil fertility, natural resources, facilities for commerce, and the variety of health-giving opportunities for recreation as has Southern California. These advantages were present and recognized even before the white man appeared with his revolutionary developments. In 1769, 170 years ago, the dauntless Father Crespi wrote in his diary on the first overland trip by white man in this area, arriving at the site of the present City of Los Angeles, "It has good land for planting all kinds of grain and seeds, and is the most suitable site of all that we have seen for a Mission, for it has all the requisites for a large settlement." This sentiment expressed by one of the first white men to enter the pages of Southern California history has been echoed and reechoed down through the years. Never in any country have the pioneers and their successors been so constantly imbued with a feeling that the possibilities of their new land were unlimited. Something in the soil and the air and in the sunshine seems to have given them a breath of vision and the energy and enthusiasm to build in accordance with that vision. True, there have been times when the outlook was dark. When the periodical great droughts have come upon them, burning up their crops, destroying their herds by the thousands - they could feel the dry boney clutch of the desert choking out their lives. With characteristic resourcefulness and ingenuity they discovered means of making use of the priceless water which nature through countless ages had stored in the underground reservoirs. When increasing population threatened to exhaust that limited supply of water, with unprecedented vision, courage, and determination they undertook and completed the Owens Valley Aqueduct.

This year the coming of Colorado River water insures us against the fear of drought sweeping down to retard or destroy our great community. The desert has been pushed beyond the mountains for all time. In all the many years since I came to Southern California I have never for one moment felt that we were approaching the end of our development. With all the growth that lies behind us we have just begun. Our resources and our opportunities have only been scratched. It is all too easy, especially in troublesome times, when business is poor and taxes are high, when conflict and hatred prevail at home and abroad, to think that we have come to an end. We are like people walking in a dark tunnel who can see no opening ahead. Under such circumstances the best way to clear the mind and recapture the vision is to review the trail along which we have come. Anyone who can travel page by page down the history of Southern California and not feel that a still greater future lies ahead is indeed lacking in vision.

Personally, I am absolutely in accord with Dr. Polyzoides. I think the time will come when on the coastal plain of Southern California will exist the greatest city of all time and the highest level of civilization the world has known. I will undertake to tell you in the few minutes remaining some of the reasons why I think this is so.

In the first place, we now have the water upon which our daily existence depends. Industrialists seeking to locate in this area are no longer concerned as to whether their expensive plants will have to be shut down or curtailed because of water shortage.

Next, whether we realize it or not, we are growing daily and have grown all through the depression. I think the 1940 census will be a pleasant surprise to many of our pessimists.

A good index of growth is water consumption. In spite of the depressed conditions the water consumption in the City of Los Angeles in the last five years increased by nine billion, one hundred-fifty million gallons per year. The increases in water consumption among the thirteen cities in the Metropolitan Water District ranged up to 76% in the same period.

In the past 16 years Los Angeles County has grown from 37th to 5th place in the value of its manufactured products, and in the same period increased its production from 21% to 40% of the total within the State. It is interesting to note that no single group of manufacturing employs more than 6% of the factory workers. This is significant as indicating how

diversified our economy is eventually becoming. Our development is not lopsided, but well balanced and integrated. In the past two years 22 nationally-known manufacturers located plants in Los Angeles County and 26 made plant expansions.

Mr. Don Thomas of the All-Year Club has pointed out recently some very significant facts that have a bearing upon the growth of Southern California. From his exhaustive studies he reports that out-of-state visitors spend in California about two hundred, eighty-nine million dollars a year. He has also found that over a period of time one of every ten tourists to California returns to locate in this State and contributes to the investment and building up of this area. Eighty-five out of every one hundred homes built for owner occupancy are built by ex-tourists.

As indicating what we may expect in the way of continued growth, the 1930 census reveals the following significant facts:

In the first ten years of this century Los Angeles County received one out of eight of all persons migrating to the eleven western states. In the second ten years, to 1920, this increased to one out of every five. And in the period from 1920 to 1930, two out of every five moving to the eleven western states settled in Los Angeles County.

Many do not realize that the Los Angeles metropolitan area has increased from 30,000 to about two and one-half millions in the short space of fifty years. This increase represents a greater number of people than the population of the States of Oregon, Montana, Wyoming, Nevada, and Arizona all put together. California has more citizens from other states than any other state in the Union and at the same time has the smallest percentage of her native born living in other states. This shows that we are not only able to attract more from elsewhere than any other state, but succeed in holding our own native born.

Some of our pessimistic friends have stated that while all of this has been true in the past, that things are changed and that the future will be different. They say that the national rate of population increase is constantly diminishing and that consequently growth is becoming static. Stuart Chase in a recent article discusses this question very sanely and comprehensively. He points out that while population is rapidly leveling off, there are new social forces now in operation which will cause real estate in the future to be in brisk demand in Southern California and in Florida, contrary to the demand for real estate generally. As the

average age level increases, due to the declining birth rate, the desire and incentive to move to a congenial climate will increase. The rapid extension of old age pension plans will naturally accelerate this movement. As people are able to retire, the lure of Southern California will become proportionately greater.

As a final justification for optimism, let me quote from an authentic economic report just out of Washington. - Barring war, the economic outlook is better, more healthy, than at any other time in the past decade. It is an enormous gain that virtually all organized elements now admit that business alone and not the Government can achieve national well-being. This means that venturesome men and hesitant established business may again lift up their eyes. -

The eyes of the World are on California. The Pacific era is at hand. With an ample, dependable, controlled water supply; with an abundance of hydro-electric power; with an ever-increasing traveling public, daily discovering our manifold advantages; with the Government returning to those sound economic fundamentals which made America great, population and industry are again on the march.

Lift up your eyes. Look about you. See what it means to again double our growth and development in ten years as we did every ten years from 1900 to 1930.

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WHT
16

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WHT
16

Remarks by W. P. Whitsett, Chairman of the Board of Directors of The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, at the Advisory Council meeting of The All-Year Club of Southern California, Ltd., December 11, 1939.

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA -- EMPIRE IN A DESERT

These pictures we have just seen reveal an amazing contrast between Southern California in the early days and the Southern California as we know it today here in 1939. Imagine the contrast if Cabrillo, sailing along our coast in the pleasant fall of 1542, had been able to take motion pictures for us of the empty wilderness that stretched before him to the mountain tops. It would seem in looking back over the long trail we have come since that time that a great empire has miraculously arisen in spite of nature and the rules of man to the contrary. That is to say we are building our homes, engaged in the task of making our living, enjoying the fragrance of orange blossoms and the shade of palm trees in the midst of a sound and beautiful empire which would never have happened if nature had not been given a lot of help by the hand of man. Most great cities -- New York, Chicago, Philadelphia, Detroit, and others were helped to growth and greatness by some great natural advantage -- a harbor, a river, a favorable location with respect to trade routes which eventually developed into a rail or a shipping center. Los Angeles, now the fifth largest and with next year's census completed perhaps the fourth largest city in America, had none of these natural assets. When Jedediah Smith, our first American visitor or tourist, came overland to California in 1826 he found a very sketchy civilization compared to what we know today. While giving due

credit to the poetic writers for their pictures of California in the days of the dons when tinkling guitars, dashing caballeros and gayly clad senoritas filled the land -- let's be practical enough to admit they didn't fill the land at all. There were fiestas, of course, from time to time at the villages or the great ranchos when all the population for hundreds of miles around would arrive on horseback or in rumbling carts at the scene of the celebration. But for the most part, Southern California in 1826 was a land where the few and widely scattered people worked tremendously hard and enjoyed few comforts and conveniences as we understand them today. The houses were made of sun-dried bricks, there were no glass window panes to keep out the wind, the weather, or the insects. For the most part beds were wooden frames laced with rawhide with a few Indian blankets thrown down on top -- instead of Beauty Rest mattresses. The chairs were rough hewn benches without paint or other adornment. Heat was supplied by inadequate fireplaces, for while Ben Franklin had invented the furnace in Philadelphia news of it had not yet reached Southern California -- and if it had the steel mills down at Torrance weren't built so the pioneers would have had to do without the furnaces anyway. Floors were generally the bare earth, not polished hardwood with thick rugs or linoleum. Breakfast, I am told, consisted of a bowl of atole, a thick gruel or porridge, - not ham and eggs, and for lunch there was more atole, sometimes with vegetables or meat in it, the addition of vegetables or meat varied with the season of the year and whether these extra ingredients were available because there was no cold storage and

no canned goods in those days. Supper, by way of variety, was another bowl of atole. I don't think so many of us would have left our relatively comfortable eastern homes for California's charm in those days. And yet within the space of 113 years we have built one of the world's great empires. What brought about this great change? Certainly not our harbor -- for we had none until we dug it out of the mud flats. Certainly not our lakes or rivers, for California was dust all summer and muddy in the winter. Certainly not our strategic location, for we were 3,000 miles away from the center of population and at the end of the line as far as any kind of shipping in those days was concerned. Then what was the magic formula by which this whole area was changed? What made the formula for the growth of Los Angeles different from that of other great cities? In many cities population followed industry or the opportunity for industry. Here we find industry, cultural development and so on followed population. In 1860, eleven years after the gold rush, the population of Los Angeles was less than five thousand. San Francisco had 56,000, New York had one million and three-quarters, Philadelphia had better than half a million. By 1880, the population of Los Angeles had nearly trebled. By 1890 it exceeded 50,000, an increase of more than 400 per cent in ten years. By 1900 it had doubled again. The 1900 census shows the population of Los Angeles to be 102,479. The next decade, 1900 to 1910, trebled our population and by 1920 we had 576,000 Los Angeles citizens. A few minutes from now Don Thomas, I suppose, will make these figures look like chicken feed when he

tells you how many tourists he and his splendid staff through their activities have brought to Southern California this past year. Judging by the record of the past few years it will probably be in the neighborhood of a million and a half tourist visitors each year -- three times the entire population of Los Angeles in 1920. Still that figure of 576,000 population in that year shows how Los Angeles grew and how PEOPLE were a big factor in helping us to make a blooming paradise out of an empty desert wilderness.

After the people arrived, and not until then, did industry begin to locate in Southern California. Frank Sieberling, then head of the Goodyear Tire & Rubber Company, was the first to discover that our growing population of Southern California merited the location here of one of his branch plants. This was the first of the many big branch plants that are now in Los Angeles County, and it came here as recently as 1918. Other branch tire factories, steel plants and auto assembly plants followed. Now the Los Angeles area is recognized as the fifth best consumer market in the United States. For the farm country around, the population growth has brought prosperity. Authorities rate Los Angeles the second best market in the country for the consumption of fresh fruits and vegetables. Only New York is ahead.

In the meantime, back in April, 1908, a courageous and far-sighted group of Los Angeles citizens had stood on a bluff overlooking San Pedro Bay. In imagination they visualized long miles of docks, warehouses, freight sheds, industrial plants with ships of the nations coming and going. Far-seeing as those men were,

I doubt that the vision of any one of them even approached the growth and development which actually took place. On August 28, 1909, San Pedro and Wilmington were consolidated with the City of Los Angeles. And though San Franciscans smugly scoffed and ridiculed the leaders of the project -- asking if they were keeping the Los Angeles harbor well watered -- they had to stop their scoffing when the man-made harbor of Los Angeles passed the tonnage figures of San Francisco, a tonnage lead it has held ever since.

I have a very vivid recollection of the rivalry and feeling which existed in those years.

After some of the mud had been dredged out of what we call the Los Angeles Harbor and facilities were made ready for shipping, we found we had no ships so we organized the Los Angeles Steamship Company and acquired two ships which were given the names "City of Los Angeles" and "City of Honolulu" in honor of the terminals of the new line. For the maiden trip of the City of Los Angeles, Frank Wiggins got together a shipload of our leading citizens as a good will party to drum up an exchange of tourists and freight business with the Hawaiian Islands. It was my privilege to go on that trip as one of the boosters of the new enterprise. In the Islands we were received with open arms as deliverers from the shipping monopoly of San Francisco. On the return, my family and I took the City of Honolulu, which, you will probably recall, caught fire and burned at sea on its maiden voyage. Between two and three hundred of us took to the life boats one morning and were picked

up late that afternoon by the tramp freighter McFarland on its way to China with a cargo of cedar poles and coal oil. The next day we were transferred to the transport Thomas on its way to San Francisco from the Philippine Islands loaded with officers and soldiers. Before reaching San Francisco a press boat came along side with some 25 or 30 correspondents and photographers from the San Francisco newspapers and press association representatives. To them it was a great lark to catch such a bunch of distinguished Los Angeles citizens in disarray and with misfit, borrowed clothing, whose upstart venture into the shipping industry had come to grief at the outset, and they proceeded to make the most of it. They seemed to take a fiendish delight in photographing us at our worst. I happened to be standing on deck close to a group of these correspondents and overheard them discussing a plan to give us the works when we reached San Francisco. Their scheme, as I gathered it, was to meet us at the wharf in San Francisco with brass bands, present us with new apparel and parade us up Market Street to the Southern Pacific Station and ship us off by train to our mud flat harbor. You can imagine the capital which they would have made at our expense in the newspapers throughout the nation. Immediately I hurried to the radio operator and wired Frank Wiggins, giving him an account of what I had heard and requesting him to seek Harry Chandler's influence in getting the Secretary of the Navy to have the S. S. Thomas docked at San Pedro. Just when I was about to give up hope of getting any action and when we were almost in sight of the Golden Gate, I noticed a great commotion

among the officers of the ship and finally we began to change our course to the south. I thought for awhile there would be a mutiny on the ship among the officers and the men who had friends waiting for them at the dock in San Francisco, but we landed finally at San Pedro with our dignity intact and another milestone was passed in the history of the Harbor.

But to return to the growth of Los Angeles and Southern California.

Only in one way did Los Angeles deviate from the formula which dictated that industry, culture and progress follows population. That was in the matter of water supply. Naturally Los Angeles, growing as it was, couldn't wait for the people to come out and then build a water supply. If we did that the population might have died of thirst while industrial progress and agricultural development would have been at a standstill for lack of power and of water for irrigation. It was, in fact, the discovery of the Los Angeles River that brought about the establishment of Los Angeles in 1771 and in recognition of the importance of the water of this stream to the life and growth of the new community, the ownership to all the water of the Los Angeles River was officially granted to the pueblo for all time in a royal proclamation by Carlos III of Spain. If you go down to Olvera Street you can still see the Zanja Madre or Mother Ditch, built by the people of the little pueblo which ran from the River to the vicinity of the old Plaza. History tells us that the Indian woman who dipped the water from the canal to be carried to the several households was the City's first municipal

employee. Later, the water-carrying Indian women were replaced by men who devised a method of delivering each family its quota of water by means of a barrel swung between the handles of a wheelbarrow. Still later these barrels were succeeded by an ox-drawn water cart. This might be recorded as the first appearance of the water wagon in the City of Los Angeles.

In recent years the Los Angeles River has been pictured by local citizens and visiting critics as a stream whose bed must be sprinkled regularly to keep down the dust, but despite all of this fun at our expense the fact remains that except for a few scattered wells the Los Angeles River for a period of 133 years served as the sole water source of this community.

Water has been the outstanding bottle-neck, the limiting factor in the growth of this area. Its lack has been the skeleton in our closet and the ghost at our banquet. In 1905, with a population of 160,000, Los Angeles suddenly was confronted with a serious water shortage. Bill Mulholland, Chief Engineer of the municipal water bureau, pushed across the desert in a buckboard looking for an additional water supply and came whooping back, saying he had found it in the snow-fed streams on the east slope of Mt. Whitney, 250 miles away, enough water he claimed for a city of a million souls. The idea of building an aqueduct longer than had ever been constructed before captured the imagination of our leaders and people who did not know fear and refused to recognize an obstacle that stood in the way of the progress of this city they had founded on the desert. They solved the problem of storing water until the population of a million should need it by placing

it to productive use on the floor of the San Fernando Valley. This area, larger than all the rest of the city, was annexed because it offered natural underground storage from which the city could pump the water as it was needed after it had been put to use growing foodstuffs which the people needed.

All thought the water problem had been solved for all time. Even Bill Mulholland with his splendid vision thought we had enough water for 75 years. But when the city hit the one million figure in the 20's it was just around the corner from a water shortage. With no other source available we had to turn to the abundant Colorado River and set about making the plans for the $220,000,000 Metropolitan Aqueduct which will supply the water needs of 2,000 square miles of our coastal area, embracing homes and gardens and industry and commerce for an ultimate population within this century of over ten million people, probably making this the largest community in the world. E. H. Herriman, the railroad empire builder, after an inspection trip to Southern California, was so impressed with the growth resulting from the building of the Owens River Aqueduct that he O.K.'d the building of the Pacific Electric Railroad across the Pass into the San Fernando Valley and sent his engineers on to the San Juan, tributary of the Colorado, to see if a gravity route could be found to bring the waters of the San Juan River to the coastal plain of Southern California, and stated at a banquet given in his honor in New York that in 100 years from now it would not be Paris, London, New York or Chicago that would be the largest city in the world, but Los Angeles, provided she could get the water to grow on -- we have the water.

I am telling you this so that you will know you can carry on your established and proved formula of growth, knowing that the thousands attracted to us through the community's method of bringing about selective immigration, will have electricity chrned from the mighty Colorado River on its way down to the sea from the mighty backbone of the continent, and that their drinking glasses will always be filled with the melted snows from those mighty peaks.

Once more Southern California has reversed the rule that population shall precede progress.

In the supply of water, we have made provision not only for the population we have, but for that which we know is on the way. We are READY -- with stream-lined, modern methods to follow through with the progress that began when the first tourists visited this land of sunshine. Those tourists, returning home, were stricken with a strange longing for the pleasant land by the Pacific shore. They sold their holdings, packed their belongings, and moved WEST. They invested their capital, their brains and their ambition in the building of this new empire.

Tourists today are doing the same thing.

With the glamour of Hollywood star-dust, like an all-year Christmas tree, attracting the eyes of the world toward Southern California; with our irresistible climate and scenery -- backed by the sound economic structure built by a patriotic citizenry and proclaimed by our ALL-YEAR CLUB, we face the future undaunted.

Europe is in its death struggle. The Era of our

Atlantic Seaboard is on the decline. Civilization's westward trek continues. The Pacific Era is dawning. Let us awaken from the lethargy of depression and realize that destiny is calling to us to make Los Angeles the World Wonder City of Tomorrow.

Remarks by W. P. Whitsett on the occasion of the 25th Anniversary of the Annexing of San Fernando Valley to the City of Los Angeles. May 3, 1940.

Mr. Chairman, Mayor Bowron, Distinguished Guests,
Ladies and Gentlemen:

The 25th Anniversary of any event worthy of commemoration is always an occasion for celebration. This evening Van Nuys, as the capital of the San Fernando Valley, is happily celebrating the 25th Anniversary of the day on which it was annexed to the City of Los Angeles.

On such an occasion, it is appropriate to review the progress made -- to compare population and property values we had back in 1915 with the population and property values we have now in 1940 -- and by these comparisons to show how fruitful this union has been.

Statistics are usually dull. But figures are the only means we have of measuring tangible civic assets.

The few figures I have chosen to sketch the pictures -- then and now -- denote such vivid contrasts and such rapid forward movement that they are, in fact, dramatic.

	Then	Now	Gain
Population	5000	95,000	1900%
Valuation	$33,000,000	$175,000,000	530%
Annual Taxes	380,000	3,800,000	1000%

These figures, remarkable as they are, tell only part of the story.

To those of us who remember the trackless expanse of these treeless acres before Los Angeles Aqueduct water came to quench the thirst of this sunkist valley, the picture one sees from Mulholland Drive on a clear day, seems unbelievable.

Prosperous towns dotted about amid green acres of rich citrus, walnut and fruit groves, alfalfa fields and dairy ranches -- and homes by the thousand, large and small, mansions and cottages -- each surrounded by pretty gardens and colorful flowers and all interlaced with ribbons of paved streets and highways, making the whole a solid community.

This richly varied landscape is the visible evidence of the wealth created by those 1031 miles of steel water mains which form an invisible network under the floor of the Valley. Yes, the faith and courage we exhibited in joining with Los Angeles to make our present water supply possible has been amply justified.

But what of the future? No recounting of past success is worth while unless we use it as a basis for future plans and continued progress.

That part of the San Fernando Valley annexed to the City of Los Angeles is today the fastest growing area within the metropolis. Our building permits over the last year averaged about 1000 per month in number and about $1,000,000 per month in value. Last month 1156 permits were issued, with a valuation of $1,464,000. Such rapid growth, accelerated at present by F.H.A. loans and the extra activity in our airplane factories, naturally carries a certain amount of momentum for the immediate future.

But steady, substantial growth such as we have enjoyed in the past, can only be maintained by intelligent planning for the highest interests of all concerned.

Even a casual survey of this valley area shows that its productive soil, year-around growing season, and pleasant climate are its greatest assets. Yet, since we were annexed to the city, taxes have been too high to allow large scale farming to be profitable. Only intensified and specialized farming such as poultry raising, dairying, and fresh fruits and vegetables for the city market could pay their way.

The real backbone of our development has been the garden acre home.

The entire valley is dotted with small homes on plots from one-half to five acres in size. In these modest, comfortable little homes reside families who live on the fat of the land with a minimum of cash expenditure. A few nut and fruit trees which add increasing permanent value to the land from the day they are planted - a garden plot which supplies the table with vegetables in season - some chickens or rabbits to enrich the menu and perhaps bring in a little extra cash -- all these are cared for by an energetic man in his leisure time. If there are children, they learn by helping him the richest lessons in the fundamentals of living. From such an acre, the thrifty housewife fills her pantry for out-of-season use, and the entire family, sharing the routine of daily chores, enjoying together the fruits of their mutual labors, becomes a partnership -- the kind of social and economic partnership which is basic to the well-being of a healthy nation.

This little garden acre home, found at its best here in San Fernando Valley, is the modern counterpart of the good old American Farm where our free nation had its beginning, and from which we can never depart in principle if we are to maintain that freedom.

In very recent years, since Los Angeles has become the fifth largest city in America, with the Motion Picture Industry, Oil Millions and various new industries pouring great wealth into our environs, the San Fernando Valley has come into favor as the location for "gentlemen's estates". We now boast many notables among our citizenry whose beautiful mansions and broad acres add prestige and wealth we old-timers scarcely dared to dream of.

But let us not have our heads turned by this recent influx of wealth into the Valley. Remember, the number of rich people is always very limited. It is, after all, the great number of small income families who make a city. Retired "little business men," retired army and navy men, and pensioners from industries and municipalities back in the less favored climes on the other side of the Rockies -- young men employed all or part time in Los Angeles business - these are the folk who will bring to us the greatest buying power, and these, by their numbers, will increase values and bear the biggest share of our tax burden in the ultimate development of this Eden Valley to its highest use.

Since the founding of the townsite of Van Nuys in 1911, my hobby has been the garden acre home. And today, such development seems more important and more popular than ever before.

Here then briefly is a plan by which the City of Los Angeles can most effectively co-operate with this area, with the greatest possible mutual benefit to the city as a whole. And I know from experience that it will work.

All of us are familiar with the splendid pamphlet on gardening which comes along with our water and electric bill each month. In the same envelope is another pamphlet telling the uses of various electrical devices, and giving some recipes for tempting dishes which may be prepared on the electric range or in the electric refrigerator. These, of course, are published for the purpose of promoting the sale of water and electricity of which Los Angeles has a considerable surplus at present.

It was suggested recently that the Bureau of Water and Power set up a "Model Garden Acre home" demonstrating thereon the devices described by the electric department and the suggestions contained in the Gardener's leaflet. With notice of such a Model Home carried to every family using electricity and water, it is possible that many thousands of people could be brought into the valley each month with the ultimate result that large numbers of them would plan to own places like the one demonstrated. This would mean increased revenue for the city as well as increased development in the valley.

The following figures clearly show the immense possibilities.

At present there are approximately 50,000 acres of undeveloped land in this annexed area which could be divided into as many commercial acres 100x300 with a liberal sprinkling of the popular gentlemen's estates.

If the merits of this location for the garden acre home were demonstrated to those wishing to locate in Southern California, these 50,000 acres which are now a burden to the ranchers could be liquidated and developed into units with an average value of $5000 - a possible total of $250,000,000 of taxable property. Assessed at 50 cents on the dollar, such a development could produce an additional annual tax revenue of approximately $6,000,000.

Each of these 50,000 units using an average of $5 per month in water and power would mean three million dollars additional annual revenue to the Water & Power Departments of the City of Los Angeles.

I firmly believe that it is in the realm of possibility to bring this about within ten years or less by putting in a practical demonstration as outlined above.

Think of the employment such a program would give in all branches of the building industry!

Allowing the maximum of 10 years for the fulfillment of this program, would mean the construction of 5000 houses per year. At the low average cost of $3000 each, this would be $15,000,000.

The labor used in actual construction, plus that used in the manufacture of supplies and fabrication of materials required, would aggregate 80% of the total cost - 12 million annually for labor - most of it in the City of Los Angeles.

Then see what such development would do for business!

Each of 50,000 new families within the city limits would conservatively bring $100 per month purchasing power - $60,000,000 annually.

Downtown business, now so overburdened with taxation and suffering from decentralization, could draw a large portion of this trade by widening Riverside Drive to make a free-way in to the Civic Center and providing free parking space somewhere in that area between Union Station and 10th Street, Los Angeles Street and the River - clearing the most blighted slum section for this purpose.

A shuttle 5¢ bus service from this free parking area, making a circuit of the downtown business district, would make that section conveniently accessible and help stabilize downtown business values.

A well-located, convenient and desirable site has been offered to the City, rent free, for this purpose. And a considerable amount of preliminary work has been done. But it seems to have been side-tracked in the Water Department offices for the time being, at least.

We hope that a better understanding of this plan of development by the civic leaders here tonight may be the means of hastening the project and establishing the first demonstration unit of an educational campaign toward the establishment of the ideal suburban home for Los Angeles.

If you think this is visionary, I ask you to remember. Ideals are like the stars, we never quite reach them; but like the mariners, we chart our course by them.

The possibilities are definitely here. Their realization is a goal worth setting for our future progress.

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PRELIMINARY DRAFT

REMARKS BY W. P. WHITSETT

ON THE OCCASION OF THE DINNER HONORING

SAMUEL G. McCLURE

AUGUST 9, 1943

Mr. Chairman, Mr. McClure and Fellow Guests:

I can not tell you how much I appreciate receiving an invitation to participate in this occassion honoring my old friend and associate Mr. McClure.

As a Director of The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California and in his private life as a newspaper publisher he has shown the vision, the soundness of principles and ideas and the courage of conviction that characterize a truely great public leader in a democracy.

He has been accorded the unique distinction of having been chosen by two great cities of Southern California to represent them on the Board of Directors of the District. As the Director from Glendale in 1932 he carried a very large share of the tremendous burden of getting the Colorado River Aqueduct construction work started.

Those were difficult years. The depth of the depression was on us with the misery and desperation of unemployment, poverty and industrial stagnation. In spite of the crying need for employment the difficulties of beginning an undertaking of the magnitude of the Colorado River Aqueduct were almost insurmountable. The obtaining of money through the usual channels was practically impossible. The Reconstruction Finance Corporation had been created but the scope of its powers did not extend to the loaning of money to such projects as the Metropolitan Water District.

We undertook the task of persuading Congress to have its lending authority extended. Ultimately we were successful. Later while negotiations for a loan were in progress at Washington, Mr. McClure happened to be on his return from a trip to Europe and I succeeded in getting word to him of the need for his assistance at Washington. He promptly responded and together with Directors Bullock and Honnold who were already at Washington, completed the negotiations with the Reconstruction Finance Corporation which assured the District of the funds for the start of construction of the Aqueduct.

The fall of 1932 was a strenous period for the District. In September the first funds became available. The engineering studies and plans were completed and the many intricate problems of the construction program were constantly before the Board. Tremendous pressure was brought to bear by those favoring the contract method and by the advocates of the force-account method. It was Mr. McClure who took a large part of the leadership on the Board which resulted in the adoption of the plan whereby both methods were harmoniously employed. This decision was one of the most important which the Board of Directors of the District ever made. The competition between the two methods resulted in incalculable economies. Each method was on the spot and knew it and the spirit of rivalry permeated from top to bottom of both the contractors and the District's organization. They watched each others progress and their unit cost. There could be no alibis and it was a fight to the finish.

Later when the construction was in full blast Mr. McClure, for business reasons, moved from Glendale to your fair city of Santa Monica and reluctantly, I believe, resigned as a Director of the District.

Several years later, on the death of Arthur Creel, your city administration made the very wise move of appointing Mr. McClure as his successor. It may be that some of us who knew so intimately his qualifications may have whispered a hint but of that I am not in a position to say. Whatever the facts may be, he took his old seat on our Board and immediately took up with his accustomed vigor and penetrating analysis the tasks confronting the District just as if he had never been away. Some of the faces of his old associates were gone. The problems were new and different but at once began to feel the contribution of his penetrating mind and his vast experience.

Possibly in a certain sense I am in error in saying that he ever was away from our Board. Physically it may be true, but spiritually I know he was always with us. In the columns of his newspaper, in his position of leadership in his community and in his broad associations, I know he was ever devoting his time and his energy to the task of obtaining for Southern California an assured and permanent water supply which is so absolutely vital to its continued existance and sound growth and development.

I have only mentioned one or two of Mr. McClure's contributions to the successful completion of the Colorado River Aqueduct. I could elaborate on many others with equal sincerity.

I know that a like account could be given of his activities in the interest of his community and the public in many other fields of civic concern. Others have and will do that more adequately than I.

It has been to me a great privilege and pleasure to have the opportunity to state publically on this occasion of Mr. McClure's 80th year of youth these few observations drawn from our years of association and collaboration as Directors of The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California.

File

THE PLACE OF GARDEN-ACRE HOME CONSTRUCTION IN THE POST-WAR PROGRAM

by W. P. WHITSETT

OCTOBER 15, 1943

1. In the 5 year period following the end of the war there will be constructed in the San Fernando Valley 50,000 garden-acre homes, an average of 10,000 a year.
2. These home places when completed should average $8,000 or a total expenditure of $400,000,000.
3. Most all of this money will flow to labor and through the regular established channels of business and will represent sound economic and social expenditure.
4. To the City of Los Angeles it will add approximately $200,000,000 of assessed valuation and at the current tax rate, an increase in the annual tax income of $11,000,000.
5. To the utilities serving the area, 50,000 new homes will provide $4,200,000 of new revenue.
6. Of the $400,000,000 expenditure during the 5 year period, $250,000,000 will go directly and indirectly into the hands of labor.
7. The foregoing analysis applies only to the relatively small area of the San Fernando Valley and would be multiplied many times when applied to the entire Coastal Plain of Southern California.

WHT
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OCTOBER 15, 1943

The post-war period in Southern California will, I believe, be different from that in any other part of the United States. There will naturally be a large curtailment of industrial activity. A good many of the products now being manufactured will no longer be required. In a number of our large industries there will inevitably be a progressive conversion period running in some cases possibly a year before the manufacture of peace time products is up to full capacity.

Should the war end suddenly the period of confusion and difficulty might be longer than in the case where there is a gradual tapering off of the hostilities. However, there will exist a pent up volume of private and public construction and maintenance which could and should be gotten under way as the requirements and opportunities call for them. Competent and forward seeing officials and executives will anticipate this situation and be prepared to meet it.

In addition to this planned program, Southern California will be favored with the situation, which I referred to a moment ago, in which it is unique. The increase in population in this area since 1940 has been variously estimated from 300,000 to half a million people. These people are now living, in a large part, under conditions which would be

regarded as intolerable under peace time standards. Hotels and apartment houses are crowded. Two or more families are sharing the same accommodations, and shacks and trailers are being utilized with the poorest of sanitary accommodations, dangerous to the people themselves and to the welfare of the community. Most of them will want to stay here. Many of them will have accumulated savings and will be in the market for homes.

In addition to these newcomers there will exist a migratory trend towards Southern California, from the balance of the Nation, greater than has ever existed heretofore. The uprooting of families from their old ties and the breaking up of homes, and family connections has been the greatest in the history of the Country. This great fluent mass of population is going to look for a new abode in which to make a fresh start. The well known appeal of Southern California is going to direct their attention this way.

There will also be the great mass of returning soldiers. Many of the thousands who have been trained in this area are going to come back. One need only to talk to the soldiers of their post-war plans to assure himself of the reality of this trend.

There is another important factor which is going to result in an increased flow of population to Southern California. A great many people who have been retired have gone back to work in the interest of the national war effort. Nearly all of these will return to their retirement status at the first moment their services are not required. In addition there will

be many whose retirement with pensions has been delayed becuase of the war. The National Social Security program will become increasingly more operative and large numbers will be eligible for retirement at the conclusion of the war. These people having some savings and an assured income are going to seek a congenial environment in which to spend the balance of their alloted years. War conditions have made most of them space and food conscious and they will seek the spiritual and physical comfort of the garden-home life for which Southern California is so widely famous.

All of these forces, and others, will direct a tremendous volume of people towards this area for whom accommodations will have to be made. Consequently, there will be generated in this area, immediately after the war, a tremendous demand for homes and furnishings together with the required utilities and public services involving enormous demands for labor, services and material. This vast construction program could in itself be great enough and endure long enough to take up the slack caused by the shutting down of production for war.

I have made an intensive study of this situation as it will affect that portion of Southern California with which I am most intimately familiar, the San Fernando Valley. As I visualize the situation, there will be a demand, in the San Fernando Valley, for possibly 50,000 such home sites. By home sites, we mean out there, a plot of ground large enough for a comfortable home and sufficient additional area for raising, if desired or necessary, a large part of the family

food requirements of vegetables, chickens, eggs, rabbits, etc.

On the average 10,000 of these homes should be built each year during the 5 year period following the end of the war. It is estimated that the average value of these home sites when fully developed will be about $8,000 and will have an assessed valuation of approximately $4,000 each. This will represent an increase in the assessed valuation of the city of about $40,000,000 a year for each of the 5 years, and an increased tax yield, at current rates, of about $2,200,000 a year or a total annual increased tax income at the end of the period of $11,000,000.

The average cost of utility services for such a home site is about $7 per month which, upon construction of 50,000 homes, would represent additional income to those providing these services of $4,200,000 a year.

The value of the labor going into the construction of these home places at the rate of 10,000 of them a year, would be about $50,000,000 annually, including that going directly into the buildings and that indirectly going into the materials of which it is comprised, practically all of which will be manufactured in Southern California. The area of which I speak, the San Fernando Valley, is particularly adapted to the immediate starting of such a construction program because, for the most part, streets, sewers, water and electric and telephone lines are already installed.

A simplification of the combination water rate which now exists is an imperative need in furthering the program and

should be worked out at the proper time. Also a proper direction of the development by the City Planning Commission is essential.

I want to remind you that I am only citing the situation which will exist in the area with which I am particularly familiar. That is, the San Fernando Valley. When we apply this situation to the whole of the Coastal Plain of Southern California the potential construction program becomes tremendously large. The 5 year period I have described will result in a building program, in the San Fernando Valley alone, of almost twice that represented by the construction of the Colorado River Aqueduct, which did so much to provide employment and furnish sound business during the most serious years of the depression.

The great advantage of this program is that it can and will be started almost automatically as soon as the war ends. While industry is readjusting itself to the new conditions this work will be going on. It will be sound, social investment in the kind of America we all want to live in and not a prodigal expenditure of money for the purpose of providing employment. We will, in effect, be living off our own growth, while developing the sound and integrated social and economic system which is inevitably the destiny of this area.

Families living on such garden-acre home sites will contribute greatly to the soundness of the economy of Southern California. They will give flexibility to the industrial system. Living on such units and producing a large part of the family food requirements they will be available for partial and seasonal employment in industry or full time if needed.

The trend towards a shorter work week will provide more time for the cultivation of their family food requirements and will result in a higher standard of living than would otherwise be the case. Recent developments in deep freezing and food dehydration are admirably adapted to the conserving of the seasonal produce for consumption throughout the year.

This type of living will be an asset to the community and the nation by developing a high type of citizen and a wholesome family environment.

Exhibit 2 WHT 10

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The trend towards a shorter work week will provide more time for the cultivation of their family food requirements and will result in a higher standard of living than would otherwise be the case. Recent developments in deep freezing and food dehydration are admirably adapted to the conserving of the seasonal produce for consumption throughout the year.

This type of living will be an asset to the community and the nation by developing a high type of citizen and a wholesome family environment.

STATEMENT BY W. P. WHITSETT

TO THE COORDINATING BOARD OF THE CITY OF LOS ANGELES

JANUARY 28, 1944

At the last meeting of this Board I presented a statement on the part which the Garden-Acre should play in the Post-War program, particularly as related to the San Fernando Valley. My conclusions presented in that report were based on 30 years of study, both in this country and abroad of the correlation between the home growing of foods and industrial employment necessary to a sound and integrated community stability.

The best security which a worker can have is the ability and opportunity to produce a large part of the food requirements of his family. In times of unemployment he increases his food production and continues to live comfortably until employment opportunities are again available. The Garden-Home Acre is not conceived of as a means of livelihood, though this frequently has been accomplished by efficient and capable management, but rather as a supplement to the person's normal economic activity.

In addition to the foregoing economic advantages there are a multitude of sound benefits, among which may be named the living in a healthful outdoor environment and the wholesome practical conditions under which children would be reared. Where the young have their regular tasks about the home place and many instructive activities to absorb their idle time, there need be no problem of delinquency. Families in such homes produce the highest type of citizens.

Since I presented the foregoing study at your last meeting, the Los Angeles School System has initiated a program having a very vital bearing on this type of development. The Board of Education has acquired approximately 400 acres of agricultural land in the western end of the San Fernando Valley on which it proposes to build a large school unit devoted to the practical study of all phases of agricultural and animal husbandry. This institution will provide courses of study suitable for both the coming generation and the older generation and will be directly applicable to those interested in the Garden-Acre type of home life.

Significant of the trend is the fact that at the present time there are over 200 agricultural teachers engaged in teaching agriculture in the Los Angeles City Schools. The agricultural program of the Los Angeles City School District is larger than that of the entire State of California. There are over 15,000 students now receiving instruction in agricultural production. During the past year in the City School's food production program 74,659 vegetable gardens produced $423,000 of food products.

There is one point I wish to emphasize. In discussion of the problems of Post-War planning there seems to be a general emphasis on construction programs which are not wealth producing. We hear so much talk of works which will require the large expenditure of public funds for the sake of providing employments regardless of

The following is an article from the Van Nuys News, October 16, 1944:

PRODUCTION OF FOOD IS INDISPENSABLE OCCUPATION OF MAN

(Remarks of W. P. Whitsett, originator of the Garden Acre Home, at Jr. College of Agriculture barbecue dinner Thursday evening.)

When the Good Lord created this earth of ours He provided a job for every man, woman and child in it -- for he intended man, made in His image, to be a co-creator with Him.

Despite all the intricacies of civilization, the production of food is still the one indispensable occupation of man.

And despite all the schemes and plans for security, there is none so sure as taking a seed, planting it in the warm, rich, moist soil and, with loving care, bringing it to full production. Then taking that sun-vitamin content to the family table to sustain life, energy and that true happiness which comes only from good health and honest work.

If there ever was a time when the younger generation needs to be guided back to the fundamental realities involved in agricultural production, it is NOW.

The Board of Education, Mr. Kersey, Superintendent of the Los Angeles Schools, and his efficient staff are to be congratulated on taking this forward step in planning a school of agriculture which is sure to build in our community a more constructive citizenship.

With day and evening classes to teach young and old the possibilities of the Garden Acre home in Southern California, I predict we will have here in the San Fernando Valley one of the greatest garden cities of the world within five years after the war ends.

A conservative estimate of present trends is that 10,000 families per year will locate in the Valley. The building of these homes will provide immediate postwar employment for thousands of workers -- and over $400,000,000 of new wealth.

The taxes and utilities paid by these new home owners will provide the City of Los Angeles with $15,000,000 additional reserve annually.

And that is REAL WEALTH -- the wealth that comes from the good earth when man labors in obedience to God's laws.

RADIO ADDRESS BY W. P. WHITSETT

The history of Southern California has been written in terms of water. It is quite generally recognized that abundant water resources are essential to the permanency of community life in this region. If it is not so widely or clearly understood that hydro-electric power resources are equally important, it is because the public does not realize that industry, home comforts, and largely our water supplies are dependent upon electric power.

Much of the domestic and irrigation water of today is pumped - the percentage increasing with time - and even now during seasons of sub-normal rainfall and low stream flow, more than half our water is dependent upon electric power.

The Boulder Canyon power transmission and the Colorado River Aqueduct now being rushed to completion will double the water and power supplies of Southern California, not only protecting our present growth and development, but making possible further growth and development in greater amounts resulting from the very definite period of decentralization from the large congested cities of the nation now setting in.

People are again looking to the land for independence and security. Nowhere else can you produce such a variety of foods for the home 365 days in the year as from an acre or two of warm, fertile valley land under the blue skies of California. Nowhere else is electricity so generally available on the farm and water, which is independent of seasonable rainfall, so reliable. Nowhere

else can you live so comfortably throughout the whole year, nowhere else has nature combined in such close proximity to each other all those diversified enjoyments of ocean, valley, mountain, and desert.

Athletes, students, writers, artists, and scientists are being attracted here by the all-year-'round athletic sports, educational, motion picture, and scientific facilities. All these advantages are becoming more and more appreciated throughout the world.

The shorter hour day and shorter day week is making available more time for vacation and travel; the devaluated dollar now buys more vacation, health, pleasure and recreation in California than in Europe. Improved National Highways; inexpensive, speedy, light-running cars; a luxuriant night's rest by airplane sleeper from Atlantic to Pacific makes a week-end visit to California possible from anywhere in the Nation. Streamline trains will greatly reduce the time and expense to California. An ocean rest voyage brings you from the East through the Panama Canal.

All these changes now taking place coupled with an abundance of water and power indicate that we are now entering the period of the greatest migration of settlers in the history of our development here in "California of the South". Whoever has the capacity to see and understand what is unfolding in Southern California today must realize that these large, dependable supplies

of water and electric power at low costs will insure the economic convenience and prosperity of the ever-increasing multitude coming to the Southwest to reside or to engage in business.

It has been said that "the land that gets water will very likely become the cradle for a new civilization" and "the distribution of power means the fixing of the seat of future empire". With rare vision the citizens of our Southland -- the builders of our communities -- many years ago foresaw Southern California's present-day needs and acted sufficiently in advance to make sure an unbroken continuity of progress.

Unquestionably, future historians will recount the Colorado River development as one of the greatest achievements of this generation. The utilization of water and power, made possible through the Boulder Canyon project, is of such far-reaching importance that it cannot be measured in terms of dollars. It must be measured in human values.

Upon these basic necessities will rest a new era of broader opportunities, more leisure for cultural development, wholesome, dependable industrial expansion and richer and happier experiences for our people.

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PRODUCTION OF FOOD IS INDISPENSABLE OCCUPATION OF MAN
Van Nuys News--October 16, 1944

Remarks of W. P. Whitsett, originator of the Garden Acre Home, at Jr. College of Agriculture barbecue dinner Thursday evening.

When the Good Lord created this earth of ours He provided a job for every man, woman and child in it--for he intended man, made in His image, to be a co-creator with Him.

Despite all the intricacies of civilization, the production of food is still the one indispensable occupation of man.

And despite all the schemes and plans for security, there is none so sure as taking a seed, planting it in the warm, rich moist soil and, with loving care, bringing it to full production. Then taking that sun-vitamin content to the family table to sustain life, energy and that true happiness which comes only from good health and honest work.

If there ever was a time when the younger generation needs to be guided back to the fundamental realities involved in agricultural production, it is NOW.

The Board of Education, ~~Mr. Kersey~~, Superintendent of the Los Angeles Schools, and his efficient staff are to be congratulated on taking this forward step in planning a school of agriculture which is sure to build in our community a more constructive citizenship.

With day and evening classes to teach young and old the possibilities of the Garden Acre home in Southern California, I predict we will have here in the San Fernando Valley one of the greatest garden cities of the world within five years after the war ends.

A conservative estimate of present trends is that 10,000 families per year will locate in the Valley. The building of these homes will provide immediate postwar employment for thousands of workers--and over $400,000,000 of new wealth.

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A conservative estimate of present trends is that perhaps 10,000 families per year should locate in the Valley. The building of these homes will provide immediate postwar employment for thousands of workers - and possibly over $400,000,000 of new wealth in 10 years.

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STATEMENT BY W. P. WHITSETT

TO THE COORDINATING BOARD OF THE CITY OF LOS ANGELES

JANUARY 28, 1944

At the last meeting of this Board I presented a statement on the part which the Garden-Acre should play in the Post-War program, particularly as related to the San Fernando Valley. My conclusions presented in that report were based on 30 years of study, both in this country and abroad of the correlation between the home growing of foods and industrial employment necessary to a sound and integrated community stability.

The best security which a worker can have is the ability and opportunity to produce a large part of the food requirements of his family. In times of unemployment he increases his food production and continues to live comfortably until employment opportunities are again available. The Garden-Home Acre is not conceived of as a means of livelihood, though this frequently has been accomplished by efficient and capable management, but rather as a supplement to the person's normal economic activity.

In addition to the foregoing economic advantages there are a multitude of sound benefits, among which may be named the living in a healthful outdoor environment and the wholesome practical conditions under which children would be reared. Where the young have their regular tasks about the home place and many instructive activities to absorb their idle time, there need be no problem of delinquency. Families in such homes produce the highest type of citizens.

Since I presented the foregoing study at your last meeting, the Los Angeles School System has initiated a program having a very vital bearing on this type of development. The Board of Education has acquired approximately 400 acres of agricultural land in the western end of the San Fernando Valley on which it proposes to build a large school unit devoted to the practical study of all phases of agricultural and animal husbandry. This institution will provide courses of study suitable for both the coming generation and the older generation and will be directly applicable to those interested in the Garden-Acre type of home life.

Significant of the trend is the fact that at the present time there are over 200 agricultural teachers engaged in teaching agriculture in the Los Angeles City Schools. The agricultural program of the Los Angeles City School District is larger than that of the entire State of California. There are over 15,000 students now receiving instruction in agricultural production. During the past year in the City School's food production program 74,659 vegetable gardens produced $423,000 of food products.

There is one point I wish to emphasize. In discussion of the problems of Post-War planning there seems to be a general emphasis on construction programs which are not wealth producing. We hear so much talk of works which will require the large expenditure of public funds for the sake of providing employments regardless of

whether they will add to the productive capacity of the Nation and return the cost. A Garden-Acre program for the San Fernando Valley will require no public moneys or borrowed funds but will be self-generating and will come naturally immediately after the cessation of hostilities when most needed.

WHT
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Address of W. P. Whitsett
Chairman, Board of Directors
The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California
At the Banquet Attended by Representatives of the
City of San Diego, San Diego County Water Authority,
U. S. Navy, and Metropolitan Water District

El Cortez Hotel, San Diego, California
November 25, 1945

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On behalf of the Board of Directors of The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, I wish to express to you our sincere thanks for your bounteous hospitality and for your good offices in giving us an opportunity to see at first hand much of the area now within your Water Authority, and your existing facilities. In traveling over this beautiful section of California, one is tremendously impressed by the growth and development that has taken place during the past few years. You have the soil and the climate that invites healthy and continuing expansion. You have the people to provide the manpower to carry forward a great program of prosperous development. I need not tell you that you require only the basic necessity of water - a dependable, permanent and adequate supply of water - to give you the golden key that will open the doorway to a future of security and continuing growth.

There is one hard and fast law of the old Southwest that still remains in full and positive control. It is a law and a rule that always controls the destinies of men who live in a semi-arid desert region. It is the law of the water hole. And under this law our people have learned - sometimes to their sorrow - that there is rarely sufficient water available to supply fully the wants of all. In every semi-arid region we find that some of the people are willing and ready to stake their resources in a plan of action that will assure them an adequate and fair share of the precious substance of

life from the water hole within their territory. And there are usually others who are reluctant to face the hard, cold facts. They sometimes seek to convince themselves, and others as well, that no extraordinary effort is needed on their part to obtain the water that is so essential. And then it almost always turns out that there is not enough water in the water hole to meet fully the needs of all. And for this reason it usually develops that the last ones to reach the water hole find themselves out of water - out of luck.

Southern California, in common with all semi-arid regions, is a land that is visited at intervals by devastating and deadly droughts. It is the visitation of these droughts that usually awakens the people of vision and energy to action. We have learned that we cannot build our communities on the expectation that years of normal or above normal rainfall will continue to bless us. We have learned that we must plan and prepare for the years of drought. This lesson was driven home to the Los Angeles metropolitan area shortly after the completion of the Owens River aqueduct. It was even more apparent in the late 20's, when for several seasons the towering peaks of the Sierras lay barren of snow. In those years Los Angeles was forced to take extreme steps to draw from underground basins locally and in the Owens River Valley every drop of water available. In those years the great metropolitan area of Los Angeles frequently found itself with only a few days water supply on hand and available for its homes, its groves and its industries. Had the drought extended over one more season the Los Angeles area would have suffered property and business losses amounting in one year to many times the cost of the Colorado River aqueduct that later was financed and built.

It is because men in portions of California have possessed

the courage and have been willing to stake their fortunes to provide against drought by the building of great and costly water supply systems that California has gone forward with an ever accelerating pace in our country's march of progress. As we look back over the past twenty years we see that when the cities of the Metropolitan Water District planned, financed and built the Colorado River aqueduct they must have been guided by the hand of Providence. The aqueduct was financed and built during the dark years of depression. It took faith in the future of Southern California to do that kind of a job back in those hard, lean years. And it required an enormous investment of money. But the people of the cities which comprised the Metropolitan Water District pressed forward with the great aqueduct project. The aqueduct was built - and it was placed in operation in the summer of 1941. A few months later America was plunged into the war. Southern California found itself on the front lines of a terrible struggle that swept over the boundless width of the Pacific. There arose the sudden need for the concentration within this western area of millions of fighting men. There came the imperative need for gigantic industrial operations. For all these there had to be the assurance of an ample and dependable water supply. The positive assurance of such a water supply was provided by the Metropolitan aqueduct. There is no need to review the history of the past four years. We all know what was accomplished and how the efforts of this section of America helped so materially to bring victory to our cause.

During those years this region was blessed with seasons of above normal rainfall, but there was no assurance that this above normal rainfall would continue from season to season. And the Coastal Plain of Southern California would never have dared to embark upon

such an ambitious program as it did assume merely on the hope that rain would come.

The end of the war finds California heading straight into an era of unprecedented expansion and development in every field. California during the past few years has firmly established itself as a leading state in population growth, in the value of its agricultural products, in the expansion of its industries. In California the trend is definitely and certainly a trend to greater and ever greater development.

In January of this year the estimated population of California was 8,842,000. It is exceeded in population by only two other states, New York and Pennsylvania. In 1944 California led every state in the Union in the cash value of its agricultural products. The annual per capita income of the people of California far exceeds the national average and is topped only by the per capita income of the people of Connecticut.

Leading most other parts of California - at the present time - in population growth, in the individual earnings of its people and in the value of retail trade are the counties of Los Angeles and San Diego. In population Los Angeles County leads all others, with an estimated population of 3,441,000, and standing fourth among the state's 58 counties is San Diego, with an estimated population, I am told, of 460,000.

The only other two counties now exceeding San Diego are San Francisco and Alameda. In the buying power of its people and in retail sales, we find San Diego once more fourth among the 58 counties of the state, topped only by Los Angeles, San Francisco and Alameda counties, in that order.

The signs of the times are plain and unmistakable. All - or a large part - of Southern California is heading straight for a passage to unprecedented progress and prosperity. To make this passage into a future of security and continuing development every community in this part of the state must obtain its own ticket. This ticket takes the form of a guaranteed and adequate water supply. The areas - the people - who have the foresight and the plain common sense to reach out and invest in this ticket of passage - these areas and these favored people - will surely be on their way - with a clear track ahead. Those who hesitate - those who stand waiting for a free ride - those will be the ones who will find themselves hopelessly stranded on a desert sidetrack.

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STATEMENT TO THE
CALIFORNIA STATE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
JOINT SECTION MEETING ON WATER AND NATURAL RESOURCES
SAN FRANCISCO, DECEMBER 4, 1946
by
W. P. WHITSETT, CHAIRMAN, BOARD OF DIRECTORS,
THE METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

It has been suggested, I understand, that I speak to you on the subject of "Water for the New California". In approaching this vital and basic subject I feel strongly that we need to extend our view to a broader zone than that which includes only the geographical area of California. At the very outset we come to the realization that the subject with which we must be concerned is the problem of water and the Pacific area of the United States.

So far as this Pacific area of the United States is concerned, there are two kinds of water that have shaped - and will continue to an even greater degree to shape - its destiny. First of all, there is the limitless mass of salt water upon which this portion of America fronts. It is the Pacific Ocean. And as we look out across the tremendous reaches of this ocean we see those portions of the earth's surface wherein the fortunes of this western land will be worked out for good or for ill in the years ahead. We see this destiny of ours in the potentials of trade and development in South America, in Alaska, in the countless islands of the Pacific, in Australia, and in the enormous population and land masses of Pacific Asia.

It now appears, at long last, that the American people are awakening to a rapidly broadening realization that in this Pacific arena - to a very large extent - there lies the answer to the fate of these United States - and, indeed,

the whole world. To meet this challenge of the world of today and tomorrow, the people of America, as though guided by the hand of Providence, have turned their eyes toward this far western territory. By the thousands, by the hundreds of thousands, yes, by the millions, people from every part of the United States are moving into this western region. Consciously or unconsciously they are preparing themselves to be the writers of a new chapter in the story of our civilization.

For reasons profound and compelling a large part of this westward migration continues to head toward that portion of the Pacific area that is called California. There is not the time - here and now - to discuss in detail the reasons for this trend in westward migration. But the fact is that such a tremendous population move continues to be under way. And that fact confronts us with the need to give increasing consideration to the second kind of water with which this area must be concerned. It is fresh water - water required to sustain life and support growth in this territory.

In the northern part of California - and to a lesser degree in the central portion of this state - Nature provided the land with water in a fairly generous measure. In these sections of the state the water problem, in a large degree, is that of controlling, conserving and distributing the water at hand. But in the southern part of California, Nature failed to provide the water needed to support the population and economic structure that even now exist there, to say nothing of the great quantities that will be required to sustain the people and the economy of the future. It is a startling fact that only one per cent of the state's water, exclusive of the Colorado River, is tributary to that portion

of the state south of the Tehachapi Pass, and yet this portion of California represents one-half of the business, industrial and land values of the entire state, and within this same area there live more than one-half of all the people of the state. To support the people who now reside in Southern California, to support agriculture, and the business, industrial and home values that now exist in Southern California, it has been necessary for its people to reach far out to distant rivers and import through giant aqueducts the water so vitally needed.

First, there was the Owens River aqueduct, financed and built by the city of Los Angeles. This water supply system called for an initial investment of $24,500,000, and it represents today an investment of more than $90,000,000. Its cost in all particulars has been borne - and will continue to be borne - by the people of Los Angeles - the people it serves.

But the Owens River aqueduct, built to serve only those people within the corporate limits of Los Angeles, could not also meet the water needs of nearby communities. And, furthermore, more than twenty years ago the people even of Los Angeles came to realize that additional water would be required by them to meet their needs in recurring periods of drought, and to satisfy the requirements of an increasing population and expanding industry. Thus it came to pass that there was organized in 1928 The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California. This water district now includes 22 incorporated cities and several local water districts. Within the boundaries of the Metropolitan Water

District are about 3,000,000 people, and it has a total assessed valuation of $2,700,000,000. The Metropolitan Water District has built and is paying in full for the Colorado River aqueduct. This is the largest and longest single water supply line in the United States. Its initial cost was approximately $190,000,000. Ultimately it will be capable of delivering to the Coastal Plain of Southern California one billion gallons of water a day. That is enough water to meet the needs of about 7,500,000 persons.

This aqueduct was built very largely during the depression years of the thirties, when Government aid was being extended to all manner of projects regardless of their ultimate economic value. But the Colorado River aqueduct was not a Government aid project. It was built from the proceeds of a bond issue of $220,000,000 voted by the people of the Metropolitan Water District.

The cost of retiring the aqueduct bonds, with interest, and the cost of operating and maintaining the aqueduct system is being borne solely and entirely by the people of the Metropolitan Water District - the people served by the aqueduct. And that is the way it should be. But that is not all. Far from receiving any gratuities from the Government, the people of the Metropolitan Water District have paid the Government handsome profits for its participation in the aqueduct project. These profits have been paid the Government in two ways.

First, the District sold its aqueduct bonds to the Reconstruction Finance Corporation. Later the R.F.C. sold these same bonds to the public, and as a result realized a profit of about $14,000,000 on the deal.

Second, the District asked the cooperation of the

Government in the building of Parker Dam below the Intake of the Colorado River aqueduct. Construction of this dam cost approximately $7,300,000, and the Government through its Public Works Administration supplied $600,000, or about 8 per cent of the total cost. The Government retained the perpetual right to 50 per cent of all the hydroelectric power available from Parker Dam. That amounts to 50,000 kilowatts, and from this energy the Government is now realizing a net of $300,000 a year. That will amount to a profit of $15,000,000 over a 50-year amortization period. That was a very smart investment by the Government. Need I say that the people of the United States would be in better shape today if all of the P.W.A. spending had been one-tenth as profitable?

Keystone of Colorado River development is Boulder Dam. And here, once more, we find a project that is being paid for, in full, by the people who are today actually utilizing its water and power resources. The law authorizing the building of Boulder Dam by the Government contained the provision that its building could not be set under way until the Secretary of the Interior held firm contracts for the sale of water and power sufficient to repay the cost of the dam and power plant, with interest, within a period of fifty years. Repayment of $25,000,000 of the cost of the dam was allocated to flood control and will be repaid out of revenues later. The Metropolitan Water District joined with other public and private power agencies in Southern California in signing the necessary contracts with the Government. In fact, the District contracted to pay for, whether used or not, 36 per cent of the firm power produced at Boulder Dam. Ultimately this large block of power will be required to operate aqueduct pumping plants.

In the early years of aqueduct operation only a small fraction of the power is needed by the Metropolitan Water District. And in the early years of Boulder Dam operation the Metropolitan Water District paid over to the Government the amount of about $4,500,000 for Boulder energy which it did not use and which was not sold to any other agency. Thus the Metropolitan Water District has been one of the principal underwriters of the Boulder Dam project, and has paid a premium of $4,500,000 to the Government, in addition to the money it has paid for power which it actually has needed and has used. The people of the Metropolitan Water District paid that $4,500,000 premium to the Federal Government for unused power because they had entered into a contract with the Government pledging themselves to pay the money. It is to be hoped that the officers of the Federal Government will be equally honest and faithful in meeting in full their contracted pledge to make certain specified Colorado River water and power deliveries to the people of Southern California.

I have referred to the major steps that have been taken in Southern California to obtain from far distant sources the water that is essential to the life of this part of our country's Pacific area. So far as the future is concerned, the life and continuing economic stability of this western territory is dependent entirely upon the available resources of the Colorado River. In Northern and Central California there also exists today and there will always exist the basic task of developing and maintaining adequate water supplies for agriculture, industry and homes. The sources of water may be different, but the task and the problem of providing adequate supplies of water for the

established civilization of today and of tomorrow - these are tasks and these are problems that are common to all sections of California.

They are tasks and problems that can successfully be performed and can properly be solved only if the people of California are wise enough to act as a unit. For these water problems have not yet been solved.

For example, in Southern California tremendous investments have been made, costly works have been built, to utilize a fair share of the water and power resources of the Colorado River. And the delivery of this water and power is pledged by the Government in contracts of long standing. But today we find that these Colorado River water rights of communities situated in California - these water rights are being threatened by a host of new water diversion projects now being promoted by various interests, including agents of the Federal Government. The truth is that the United States Bureau of Reclamation has issued a report listing 134 potential new Colorado River projects, and in this report the officers of the Government admit that if these proposed projects were to be constructed they would call for the diversion and use of 25 per cent more water than is actually available in the river, taking into account the rights of projects now in operation. The Bureau of Reclamation takes the position that all of the listed projects cannot be developed, and calls upon the states of the Colorado River basin to screen and select projects and agree upon division of the available water. The competition for projects creates a grave danger of over development. The United States Bureau of

Reclamation estimates that the cost of these 134 proposed new projects will amount to $3,460,000,000.

This danger of overdraft on the water of the Colorado River was sorely aggravated by the action of the United States Senate in ratifying the Mexican water treaty as it was submitted. This treaty guarantees to Mexico for all time 1,500,000 acre feet of Colorado River water annually. California communities opposed the ratification of this treaty because it gives to Mexico an unjustifiable quantity of Colorado River water. But Government agents and certain other areas in the Colorado River basin supported the treaty. And it is from these same sources that there now comes the request for the development of many of these 134 proposed new projects - projects which, if they are authorized and built, will disastrously overdraw the remaining available water of the river.

Colorado River control and development thus far has been made possible almost completely by financial investments and commitments of communities and firms which happen to be in Southern California. These Southern California investments and commitments in Colorado River development now amount to $533,000,000. That is the bill which Southern California communities are obligated to pay for feasible, practicable and operating water and power works on the Colorado River. Our people are willing and ready to meet this heavy obligation because the projects for which these investments have been made are feasible and necessary. The projects include Boulder Dam and power plant, the All American Canal in the Imperial and Coachella Valleys, the Colorado River Aqueduct and Boulder power transmission systems. And it is, I

submit, unreasonable and grossly unfair to have these established self-sustaining projects subjected to water and power losses in order to set up other new projects whose feasibility in most cases have not been and cannot be demonstrated.

The people in the Colorado River basin who have pioneered the gigantic task of controlling and developing the resources of the river for the service of mankind - these people have supported and carried forward river projects that have paid their own way. The people of the United States have a right to insist that this policy be continued with regard to further Colorado River projects. When a new project for Colorado River water diversion is proposed the taxpayers of the United States have a right to insist that it meet the test of feasibility. They have a right to insist that it prove its ability to pay its own way.

The days of boondoggling in costly uneconomic public works ought now to have passed. There should be no place in the water hungry communities of Western America for billion dollar white elephants disguised as water projects.

There is need - there is grave need - in the communities of the Colorado River basin and in the South Pacific area for every gallon of water within economic reach of this Southwest region. And there is not enough water available to justify its dissipation on projects where the use of the water will not be of sufficient economic value to permit the full repayment of the project cost.

Here in California we have in all sections of the state

a common and an urgent interest in the development and protection of our respective water rights. It is of vital interest to each section of the state that the legitimate rights of all parts of the state be safeguarded and properly advanced. There are no reasonable grounds for a division of our people on the basic subject of water. There are no reasonable grounds for the division of our legislators in Sacramento and in Washington in so far as the water rights of California are concerned.

California is a part of the Pacific area of the United States. If the United States is to realize its destiny at home and in the broad reaches of the Pacific, we must retain here in this territory the basic water rights we have thus far secured - and for which we are paying in full.

Our future security and our fate as an essential sector of America's western front can and will be measured in terms of water.

Remarks of W.P.Whitsett
on the occasion of " On-The-Air" celebration
of Station KGIL
October 19, 1947

Thank you, Walter Mendenhall. I am sure that you with your Van Nuys News have played a leading role in telling the world about the San Fernando Valley,- long before we were fortunate enough to have a radio station of our own. I want to extend my congratulations and best wishes to all those who are responsible for establishing Station KGIL.

Years ago, I predicted that one half of the future citizens of Los Angeles would locate in the San Fernando Valley. But I find that I underestimated the trend. Listen to the facts. "The city of Los Angeles has acquired 87,761 additional dwelling units since 1940,- an increase of 15%. Almost exactly one half of these new homes were built in the spacious San Fernando Valley. This means a gain of 86½ % for the valley as compared with the fifteen percent gain of the city as a whole.

This trend of the last seven years is bound to continue. For population increase MUST go where there is available space and an ample water supply.

Water has been, and will continue to be, the determining factor in the growth and development of Southern California. We have here in the San Fernando Valley the most abundant and dependable water supply of any section of Southern California. Our underground water system of steel mains totals more than 1500 miles- and some of them are big enough to walk

through.

This system was designed to give one inch continuous flow to every 7½ acres, meeting the agricultural requirements of the ranches. But this same flow is the exact amount required by thirty-five 50 foot residential lots into which 7½ acres can be subdivided. So we planned in advance for what is now taking place.

Besides the water available from the Owens River and Colorado River Aqueduct, the San Fernando Valley has its ~~own~~ underground reserves which are replenished by flood-controlled streams draining the vast areas of its surrounding mountains.

Migration to the Pacific Coast is on the march.

Los Angeles, in the last ten years, has jumped from fifth place to be the third largest city of the United States. It is destined to be the world's greatest city.

Our San Fernando Valley, comprizing one half the area of Los Angeles, contains within itself as many square miles as the city of Chicago. Consider these facts, and ponder the possibilities.

Personally, I am proud that my town of Van Nuys,- where I have lived and dreamed and worked for nearly forty years is the capital of this great valley. And I am happy that we have station ~~WGIL~~ KGIL to broadcast our story to the world.

Remarks of W. P. Whitsett
on the occasion of "On-The-Air" celebration
of Station KGIL - October 19, 1947

Thank you, Walter Mendenhall. I am sure that you with your Van Nuys News have played a leading role in telling the world about the San Fernando Valley, - long before we were fortunate enough to have a radio station of our own. I want to extend my congratulations and best wishes to all those who are responsible for establishing Station KGIL.

Years ago, I predicated that one half of the future citizens of Los Angeles would locate in the San Fernando Valley. But I find that I underestimated the trend. Listen to the facts. "The City of Los Angeles has acquired 87,761 additional dwelling units since 1940, - an increase of 15%. Almost exactly one half of these new homes were built in the spacious San Fernando Valley. This means a gain of 86½% for the Valley as compared with the 15% gain of the City as a whole.

This trend of the last seven years is bound to continue. For population increase MUST go where there is available space and an ample water supply.

Water has been, and will continue to be, the determining factor in the growth and development of Southern California. We have here in the San Fernando Valley the most abundant and dependable water supply of any section of Southern California. Our underground water system of steel mains totals more than 1500 miles - and some of them are big enough to walk through.

This system was designed to give one inch continuous flow to every 7½ acres, meeting the agricultural requirements of the ranches. But this same flow is the exact amount required by thirty-five 50 foot residential lots into which 7½ acres can be subdivided. So we planned in advance for what is now taking place.

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Talk by W. P. Whitsett

WEYMOUTH MEMORIAL CEREMONY
March 18, 1953

Mr. Chairman. It fills me with pride and happiness to meet here this morning with members of the Board of the Metropolitan Water District - with some of the men I served with in former years on this Board - with officers and employees of the District I know so well - and the representatives of this part of the District here in the immediate vicinity of the F. E. Weymouth Memorial Softening and Filtration Plant.

It seems only yesterday since we here in Southern California set out to organize the Metropolitan Water District and to plan the great aqueduct project. It seems only yesterday that we were pushing forward the tremendous educational campaign in support of the squeduct bond issue - and then on to start and complete the building of the first development of the aqueduct system. Actually, we all know that it was just about 25 years ago that the District was first established - in 1928. This is the 25th year of the Districts life. It is a Silver Anniversary of a great dream come true - come true by the swaat, and toil, and unceasing devotion of the men and women who had the vision to grasp that kind of dream - and the courage and the ability to make their dream come true. It was first a dream and then an accomplished task of bringing to our people a life giving water supply from the Colorado River.

Foremost among all those whose vision and laadership transformed the Metropolitan Aqueduct from a paper project to a might functioning water supply system - foremost among all the others - there will always stand the figure of Frank E. Weymouth.

I was one of those who, as a member of the Board of Directors, insisted that Mr. Weymouth be given the responsibility and the authority to carry forward the difficult work of General Manager and Chief Engineer. Let me say here and now that the people of Southern California and, indeed,

the people of America, have good reason to be deeply thankful that our Board of Directors was given the wisdom to place Frank Weymouth in charge of the engineering and administrative work of the Metropolitan Water District. He did a job that few if any could have equalled - and he did a job which I am sure none other could have surpassed.

It was thirty years ago that a few of our far visioned leaders here in Southern California awakened to the need of bringing in water to this area from the Colorado River. The surveys were started by the City of Los Angeles in 1923 - and five years later - in 1928 - the Metropolitan water District was organized under the provisions of the Metropolitan Water District Act. adopted by the California State Legislature.

But there were many timid souls among us who did not see and did not understand this vital need for additional water from the Colorado River. Some there were who said the water was not needed. Our population, they said, would never grow to a point where the water would be required. There were many who said the job was too difficult to be completed. But the hand of Destiny came to pass over this enchanted Land. Dâvine Providence opened theeyes - the minds - and the souls of our people to the true vision of a great and ever growing future for this country.

Only <u>one</u> basic substance was lacking and that was <u>Water</u>. Our people came to see this picture clearly and forcefully. The people in the cities of the Metropolitan Water District - way back there in 1931 - measured up to their great opportunity. They voted a bond issue of $220,000,000 to pay the full cost of building the Colorado River Aqueduct out of their own pockets. Our people voted these bonds by the decisive majority of better than four to one. We did not ask for and we have never received a dollar of Federal subsidy for our aqueduct system that has been built - and has been in successful operation for just about twelve years.

One of the big reasnon why our people had faith in our ability to build

and to finance our own giant aqueduct system was the man who had been chosen to direct the engineering and administrative work. This man was Frank E. Weymouth.

The Metropolitan Water District has been given the solemn responsibility of providing this part of California with a permanent and a dependable water supply. The District has demonstrated that it can handle the job. The Metropolitan Water District is ready and able to carry forward the task of keeping this territory supplied with water. The great task first assumed by Frank Weymouth and those about him must and will be carried forward to ever widening horizons for the millions yet to come.

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When the Good Lord created this earth of ours He provided a job for every man, woman and child in it -- for he intended man, made in His image, to be a co-creator with Him. Despite all the intricacies of civilization, the production of food is still the one indispensable occupation of man. And despite all the schemes and plans of security, there is none so sure as taking a seed, planting it in the warm, rich moist soil and, with loving care, bringing it to full production. Then taking that sun-vitamin content to the family table to sustain life, energy and that true happiness which comes only from

Suggestions

I Recent History of Growth of the Valley

II Part of talk made Oct. 16, 1944

III Appreciation to the Board of Education and Superintendant Stoddard for the establishement and development of Pierce Agricultural College.

Dr. Edwin B. Angier, Director,

from Van Nuys High School

BUILDING PERMITS

1948		1949	
Permits	Value	Permits	Value
24,929	$111,468,839.00	22,731	$103,232,129.0

Oct 16. 1944. Predicted 10,000 homes for 10 years.

good health and honest work. If there ever was a time when the younger generation needs to be guided back to the fundamental realities involved in agricultural production, it is NOW.

For too long we have been trading hoes for can openers floundering down the gadget trail looking for security in the tangled undergrowth of Deficit Financing -- destroying our self-confidence -- killing our worthy ambitions and finding only Frustration.

Ladies and Gentlemen:

We are gathered here today on the desert slopes of the San Gorgonio Mountain Pass---out here in the southwest corner of the United States. As we look out across these vast mountain and desert spaces, we know that to the west of us---one hundred miles away---lie the cities of the Coastal Plain of Southern California, surrounded by their vineyards---their orange groves---their ranches---and their factories. Looking back across the barren and rugged mountain and desert country stretching out to the eastward---we know that two hundred miles away is the great Colorado River wasting its precious cargo of water into the Gulf of California.

The strong-hearted and clear-visioned people of the thirteen cities in the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California have set under way the mighty task of bringing a portion of that Colorado River water across these three hundred miles of mountain and desert country to supply the increasing needs of our cities on the Coastal Plain.

We are meeting here today to set under way one of the most spectacular and important sections of this gigantic aqueduct project.

In bringing to the Coastal Plain of Southern California the flood waters of the western slopes of the Rocky Mountains which are carried down the mighty Colorado to be stored behind the Boulder Canyon Dam---now building---San Jacinto, that snow-capped mountain standing yonder, is the most formidable barrier.

Through the years it has been a challenge to the dreamers of this Project---and more recently to the Directors of The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California. Today---we accept that challenge---and under the capable and experienced leadership of our General Manager and Chief Engineer---Frank E. Weymouth---we are going to drive a 16-foot tunnel for 13 miles through the granite heart of that mountain.

We are going to drive 91 miles of 16-foot tunnels through the mountain barriers that stand between Southern California and the Colorado River where we have procured an ample water supply for all time.

It will require 10,000 men laboring six long years to complete this job---the largest construction job going forward anywhere in the world today. It is only fair, however, right here, to issue a decisive warning to every person within the range of my voice. The only men who can possibly - under any circumstances - secure employment on this job are men who have been residents of the Metropolitan Water District since September of 1930. It will be utterly futile---and certainly tragic---for anyone living beyond the boundaries of the District to come here with the hope of ever securing work on the aqueduct.

Down through the years to come, the precious snow water from the Colorado will be brought to this Coastal Plain of Southern California. Here---with an ample, dependable supply of water, an abundance of cheap hydro-electric power---a new hope, courage and determination to carry on has been reborn.

New industry is finding new opportunity. Garden homes are multiplying in the fertile valleys,and with the shorter hour day, a happier and more contented citizenry will develope---dividing its time between the productive Garden Home and the factory.

On behalf of the Directors of The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, I wish to welcome all of you who are gathered here today---and to assure you all, that this twin project to the Hoover Dam---the greatest aqueduct ever conceived by man---will be rushed to completion to meet these growing needs.

One of the things, strange as it may seem, that we are suffering from in this country right now is too much progress. During the time that has elapsed since this was a nation of pioneers hewing their individual homes from the wilderness, the trend has markedly changed. Up until 100 years ago, the trend was steadily toward the farm, toward the settling of the great unsettled areas of the nation and almost without exception these were times of plenty, if not times of prosperity as we know it -- I say times of plenty from the standpoint of a stout roof and stout clothes and a plenitude of solid and sustaining food available for everyone in the nation.

With the development of great industry and, more recently, with the arrival of a mechanical age, a great change set in. We ceased to be the pioneer agricultural nation upon which our national prosperity was founded. Even though our agricultural efforts produce greater quantities of agricultural products than ever before, still we have subtly but surely changed from being farmers into being manufacturers. Even the man on the farm became a manufacturer and nowhere is this better illustrated than right here in California.

How many real farmers do you know in the state? You know a farmer who farms an orange grove -- he's not a farmer -- he's an orange manufacturer. Another person of your acquaintance has 160 acres of grapes but he is not a farmer -- he is a raisin manufacturer. Here's another chap who has 100 acres in beans but he is no farmer because his farm produces nothing but beans -- it is a bean factory. Here's a chap who describes himself as a chicken farmer and he has 10,000 hens on his place but that

lets him out: He drives his car five miles to the nearest store to buy a bottle of milk and a pound of butter and he depends on Itchi Yamaguchi for the fresh vegetables that the health of his family requires.

Now, just between us, isn't this a trifle ridiculous? Here we are living in what is unquestionably the most fertile spot in the world. California land requires but one thing to make it put the Valley of the Nile to shame and that one thing is water.

When we drive up our great inland valleys like the Sacramento and the San Jouquin and see what was once a trackless desert, producing nothing but greasewood, cactus and sage brush, which, by the magical application of water has been metamorphosed into a veritible garden spot that fairly teems with fruit and vegetables of every description, we realize the potency and the power of water.

Have you ever stopped to consider that you can not take one acre of ground and a man (or, for that matter, a woman) who is willing and capable of working, and put that person on that acre of ground and starve him to death, providing that that individual has seeds and the ground has water?

There was a time not so long back when it seemed that to produce food was not worth while from the standpoint of the producer but when I go in and see the mounting prices of foodstuffs and I realize that the individual foodstuffs bills of people everywhere are increasing, without a corresponding increase in their salary checks or dividend returns, then I know that there is truly room for a back to the soil movement and I mean by this a back to the soil movement that need not

include the leaving of an occupation a business or industry in which you have years of training invested, but merely a movement that will take advantage of the government's efforts to better the condition of the people of this country.

The purchasing of a home has been simplified by the establishment of various forms of government assistance; chiefest and, I believe, best, the new Federal Savings & Loan Associations.

Why not have this home of a type that will have all of the architectural improvements and beauty that you contemplate and at the same time will have enough ground in conjunction with it to enable you to have a one-acre model farm with your own garden, your own chickens, your own fruit trees and grape vines and your own living right in your own back yard where you can produce health for yourself and your family as well as sustenance for your table.

Never before has it been as easy to purchase a home as it is right now. Never before has there been an oportunity as great for the individual who has a few dollars and a desire to own his own home. Do you realize that with the rapid development of airplanes -- a development that you can not laugh off -- that the teeming populous centers of the east grow hourly closer to this garden spot of the west? That it will soon become comparatively common for a man to week-end in California from anywhere in the country, because the increase in size and speed and comfort of the airplane makes this inevitable and logical?

There was an announcement recently to the effect that Diesel engines had been perfected for airplanes. If this proves to be so, California will have the greatest real estate boom in its history, for a Diesel engine burns crude oil for fuel and can

be operated for a fraction of what any other type of oil burning engine costs.

The development of this country is inevitable -- it will continue as surely in the future as it has in the past. That development is linked up with two things -- land and water. And in this great state the prosperity and the value of the land invariably is dependent upon an adequate supply of pure water.

I have a guest speaker this afternoon who will address you for a few minutes upon this subject. This is a man who is thoroughly qualified to talk to you, not only from the standpoint of being a pioneer developer and builder of California but from the standpoint of having been identified for the past twenty years with the water needs of Southern California; a man who probably knows more about the importance and urgency of a plentiful supply of good water than any man in our state.

I take pleasure in introducing Mr. W. P. Whitsett, pioneer developer of San Fernando Valley, founder and builder of the town of Van Nuys and Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California.

RADIO TALK BY W. P. WHITSETT

The history of Southern California has been written in terms of water. Its future growth and development will be determined by its dependable water supply. The Boulder Canyon dam and the Colorado River Aqueduct now being rushed to completion will double the water supply of Southern California, not only protecting our present growth and development, but making possible the growth and development resulting from the very definite period of decentralization from the large congested cities of the nation now setting in. People are again looking to the land for independence and security. Nowhere else can you produce such a variety of foods for the home 365 days in the year as from an acre or two of warm, fertile valley land under the blue skies of California. Nowhere else can you live so comfortably throughout the whole year, nowhere else has nature combined in such close proximity to each other all those diversified enjoyments of ocean, valley, mountain, and desert.

Athletes, students, writers, artists, and scientists are being attracted here by the all-year round athletic sports, educational, motion picture, and scientific facilities. All these advantages are being publicised by the motion picture industry, the radio, and the press throughout the world.

The shorter hour day and shorter day week is making available more time for vacation and travel, the devaluated dollar now buys more vacation, health, pleasure, and recreation in California than in Europe. Improved National Highways, inexpensive, speedy, light-running cars, a luxuriant night's rest by airplane sleeper from Atlantic to Pacific makes a week-end visit to California possible from anywhere in the Nation. Streamline trains will greatly reduce the time and expense to California. An ocean rest voyage brings you from the East through the Panama Canal. All these changes now taking place indicate that we are now entering the period of the greatest migration of settlers in the history of our development here in "California of the South."

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RADIO ADDRESS BY W. P. WHITSETT

The history of Southern California has been written in terms of water. It is quite generally recognized that abundant water resources are essential to the permanency of community life in this region. If it is not so widely or clearly understood that hydro-electric power resources are equally important, it is because the public does not realize that industry, home comforts, and largely our water supplies are dependent upon electric power.

Much of the domestic and irrigation water of today is pumped - the percentage increasing with time - and even now during seasons of sub-normal rainfall and low stream flow, more than half our water is dependent upon electric power.

The Boulder Canyon power transmission and the Colorado River Aqueduct now being rushed to completion will double the water and power resources supplies of Southern California, not only protecting our present growth and development, but making possible further growth and development which will ~~in greater amounts~~ result~~ing~~ from the very definite period of decentralization from the large congested cities of the nation now setting in.

People are again looking to the land for independence and security. Nowhere else can you produce such a variety of foods for the home 365 days in the year as from an acre or two of warm, fertile valley land with water under the blue skies of California. Nowhere else is electricity so generally available on the farm and water, which is independent of seasonable rainfall, so reliable. Nowhere else can you live so comfortably throughout the whole year, nowhere else has nature combined in such close proximity to each other all

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Athletes, students, writers, artists, and scientists are being attracted here by the all-year-'round athletic sports, educational, motion picture, and scientific facilities. All these advantages are becoming more and more appreciated throughout the world.

The shorter hour day and shorter day week is making available more time for vacation and travel; the devaluated dollar now buys more vacation, health, pleasure and recreation in California than in Europe. Improved National Highways; inexpensive, speedy, light-running cars; a luxuriant night's rest by airplane sleeper from Atlantic to Pacific makes a week-end visit to California possible from anywhere in the Nation. ~~Streamline~~ Streamliner trains will greatly reduce the time and expense to California. An ocean rest voyage brings you from the East through the Panama Canal.

All these changes now taking place coupled with an abundance of water and power indicate that we are ~~now~~ entering the period of the greatest migration of settlers in the history of our development here in "California of the South". Whoever has the capacity to see and understand what is unfolding in Southern California today must realize that these large, dependable supplies of water and electric power at low costs will insure the economic convenience and prosperity of the ever-increasing multitude coming to the Southwest to reside or to engage in business.

It has been said that "the land that gets water will very likely become the cradle for a new civilization" and "the distribution of power means the fixing of the seat of future empire". With rare

vision the citizens of our Southland -- the builders of our communities -- many years ago foresaw Southern California's present-day needs and acted sufficiently in advance to make sure an unbroken continuity of progress.

Unquestionably, futre historians will recount the Colorado River development as one of the greatest achievements of this generation. The utilization of water and power, made possible through the Boulder Canyon project, is of such far-reaching importance that it cannot be measured in terms of dollars. It must be measured in human values.

Upon these basic necessities will rest a new era of broader opportunities, more leisure for cultural development, wholesome, dependable industrial expansion and richer and happier experiences for our people.

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Water in desert places is all things to all men, enough is a god sufficiency and too much is a pesteration. To the unsuccessful contracter, the water in San Jacinto tunnel is an unsurmountable obstacle; to the resourceful, successful contractor it would be anticipated and provided for; to the District it is one of the many problems to be met and overcome; to the rancher with even a moderate sized ranch during the hot summer season, it would be insufficient; to the rancher in the vacinity of the San Jacinto tunnel, located on receeding water tables with falling wells it suggests a means of liquidating an unprofitable investment, to the resourceful attorney and experienced cameraman, a close-up, Niagra Falls; to those opposed to the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, more than enough to meet our present and future needs.

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- - - - -

Miss Alice Hamilton

917 Buena Vista St

So Pasadena - Cal —

Delayed, Probably return Tuesday

M H Hoyt —

Chairman Richards
Distinguished Guests Fellow Citizens

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Thank you for your attention

Mr. Chairman. It fills me with pride and happiness to meet here this morning with members of the Board of the Metropolitan Water District - with some of the men I served with in former years on this Board - with officers and employees of the District I know so well - and the representatives of this part of the District here in the immediate vicinity of the F. E. Weymouth Memorial Softening and Filtration Plant.

It seems only yesterday since we here in Southern California set out to organize the Metropolitan Water District and to plan the great aqueduct project. It seems only yesterday that we were pushing forward the tremendous educational campaign in support of the aqueduct bond issue - and then on to start and complete the building of the first development of the aqueduct system. Actually, we all know that it was just about 25 years ago that the District was first established - in 1928. This is the 25th year of the District's life. It is a Silver Anniversary of a great dream come true - come true by the sweat, and toil, and unceasing devotion of the men and women who had the vision to grasp that kind of dream - and the courage and the ability to make their dream come true. It was first a dream and then an accomplished task of bringing to our people a life giving water supply from the Colorado River.

Foremost among all those whose vision and leadership transformed the Metropolitan Aqueduct from a paper project to a mighty functioning water supply system - foremost among all the others - there will always stand the figure of Frank E. Weymouth.

I was one of those who, as a member of the Board of Directors, insisted that Mr. Weymouth be given the responsibility and the authority to carry forward the difficult work of General Manager and Chief Engineer. Let me say here and now that the people of Southern California and, indeed, the people of America, have good reason to be deeply thankful that our Board of Directors was given the wisdom to place Frank Weymouth in charge of the engineering and administrative work of the Metropolitan Water District. He did a job that few if any could have equalled - and he did a job which I am sure none other could have surpassed.

It was thirty years ago that a few of our far visioned leaders here in Southern California awakened to the need of bringing in water to this area from the Colorado River. The surveys were started by the City of Los Angeles in 1923 - and five years later - in 1928 - the Metropolitan Water District was organized under the provisions of the Metropolitan Water District Act adopted by the California State Legislature.

But there were many timid souls among us who did not see and did not understand this vital need for additional water from the Colorado River. Some there were who said the water was not needed. Our population, they said, would never grow to a point where the water would be required. There were many who said the job was too difficult to be completed. But the Hand of Destiny came to pass over this enchanted Land. Divine Providence opened the eyes- the minds - and the souls of our people to the true vision of a great and ever growing future for this country.

Only one basic substance was lacking and that was Water. Our people came to see this picture clearly and forcefully. The people in the cities of the Metropolitan Water District - way back there in 1931 - measured up to their great opportunity. They voted a bond issue of $220,000,000 to pay the full cost of building the Colorado River Aqueduct out of their own pockets. Our people voted these bonds by the decisive majority of better than four to one. We did not ask for and we have never received a dollar of Federal subsidy for our aqueduct system that has been built - and has been in successful operation for just about twelve years.

One of the big reasons why our people had faith in our ability to build and to finance our own giant aqueduct system was the man who had been chosen to direct the engineering and administrative work. This man was Frank E. Weymouth.

The Metropolitan Water District has been given the solemn responsibility of providing this part of California with a permanent and a dependable water supply. The District has demonstrated that it can handle the job. The Metropolitan Water District is ready and able to carry forward the task of keeping this territory supplied with water. The great task first assumed by Frank Weymouth and those about him must and will be carried forward to ever widening horizons for the millions yet to come.

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Speeches

Municipal Power and the Roosevelt
"Rural-Industrial" Plan

To be happy and contented, people must have a sense of security --- an assurance that the future holds something permanent in store for them.

Pres. Roosevelt, in his national recovery program, has one outstanding aim in view -- to provide a secure future for the greatest possible number of families.

Challenging time-worn doctrines and theories, Pres. Roosevelt is putting the wheels of industry into motion with a whole new set of economic principles, blazing the trail toward a permanent, stabilized prosperity that will provide the kind of permanent security which the people of the United States want.

The general outline of the President's national recovery program is taking shape. Most of us are familiar now with the administration's plan to put into effect "a back-to-the-land movement that will work"; to decentralize industry by building small industrial centers in rural or semi-rural areas to provide jobs for those who move back to the land; and to provide cheap electricity to operate these plants and to make farm life easier, more comfortable and hence more attractive.

The successful outcome of this program will create what Pres. Roosevelt calls a "rural-industrial" population, made up of part-time or sustenance farmers, depending upon the land for most of their food, and supplementing this with an income from rural or semi-rural industrial centers.

This entire program adapts itself perfectly to conditions

as they exist within the City of Los Angeles. Although patterned to meet a national situation, the recovery machinery thus outlined can be put into motion in Los Angeles quicker than in any other part of the country, because we already have most of the requisites to put it into operation.

Within the city limits of Los Angeles, notably in San Fernando Valley, are thousands of acres of fertile land, served with city water under pressure, admirably suited for a "part-time" or "rural industrial" population. A back-to-the-land "part-time" farm movement has been gathering momentum for several years on these vast expanses of farm lands within the city limits, due in a large measure to the availability of cheap electricity from the Los Angeles Municipal Bureau of Power and Light.

Steam and electric lines, paved highways, adequate sewer facilities, schools, churches and community centers are available for immediate development of small industrial centers in farming districts within the city limits of Los Angeles, where jobs can be created for "part-time" farmers.

Within the city limits, we have fertile, irrigated land, cheap industrial and domestic power, plenty of industrial land available in the heart of semi-rural or farming sections, and adequate transportation facilities. On the other hand we have thousands of families who are seeking the security and independence which they can find on a part-time farm in conjunction with industrial employment.

The City of Los Angeles, with cheap industrial power, and all of our other advantages, is well able to set an example -- to be the oft-mentioned "yardstick" for the rest of the nation, leading the way to a safe, secure and stabilized prosperity, by

applying the principles outlined by Pres. Roosevelt. We are already years ahead in the development of these requirements which are a necessary and fundamental part of the "rural-industrial" program.

While many other parts of the United States are only in the primitive stages of developing rural-industrial communities, Los Angeles presents a well-rounded program of this kind, where opportunities are plentiful for those interested in President Roosevelt's "rural-industrial" plan. There are great tracts of low-priced industrial land within the city limits of Los Angeles, on steam and electric lines, and in the heart of fertile semi-rural areas, admirably suited for a "rural-industrial" development.

The Los Angeles Municipal Power Bureau can give you expert advice as to the availability of cheap industrial power and the desirability of various industrial areas in San Fernando Valley and other outlying districts from an economic standpoint and from the viewpoint of Pres. Roosevelt's national recovery program.

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Mr. Chairman, distinguished guests, friends:

During the 28 years of our civic existence many men have prophesied, guessed, wished, hoped, and speculated, more or less, as to our course into the future. It is only natural that we should all be deeply concerned with the growth of population and wealth of our community.

As bearing on our destiny, it is most enlightening to check what men of vision have had to say about the destiny of Southern California.

Almost thirty years ago, E. H. Harriman, the greatest railroad genius of all time and one of this nation's grestest builders, is reported to have said at a banquet in New York after returning from Southern California, - Gentlemen, in a hundred years it will not be Paris, Berlin, London, or New York that is the biggest city in the world, but it will be Los Angeles, California, providing sufficient water can be imported.

When we were getting the appropriation to start Hoover Dam, Dr. Ray Lyman Wilbur, President of Stanford University and at that time Secretary of the Interior, said, "There are two great migrations of people taking place in the world today, one into Manchuria and the other into Southern California."

Two weeks ago at the annual banquet of the Los Angeles Realty Board, Dr. Polyzoides of the University of Southern California, a lecturer, writer, and profound student of world affairs, said,"Europe is fast drifting toward political and economic bankruptcy; our eastern seaboard is reflecting the

European decline; the Pacific area is fast coming into its own. With the coming of the Pacific era Los Angeles is destined to become the world's greatest city."

Many years ago and before most of you had made your homes here, I became convinced that when the merits of the San Fernando Valley were fully discovered one-half of the next million people locating in Los Angeles would build their homes within this mountain-walled garden. I am proud of that prediction and I am more convinced today than ever before of its accuracy.

A well-known national speaker recently on the radio made a remark which has an important bearing on this subject. He said in effect that an analysis of the stability of the age-old country of England in comparison with conditions as they exist in the United States reveals an important difference in the habits of the two people. In England when a man acquires independence or competency he immediately moves into the country. In the United States when a man arrives at economic independence he immediately migrates to the large cities. From the standpoint of healthful living, practically everyone will admit and be able to point out the error in the American system.

Here in the San Fernando Valley we have the unique combination of being able to give people the advantages of a rural environment within a large city.

That this growth which was predicted so many years is now taking place is revealed by the fact that 942 building permits were issued in the San Fernando Valley during the month of January, 1939, exclusive of Burbank and San Fernando which are integral parts of the Valley.

The Colorado River Aqueduct is bringing in water sufficient to meet the needs of ten million people. Without this water the possibility of continued growth such as we have experienced during the past thirty years would inevitably be stifled and killed. ~~With this water~~ The Pacific era is at hand. Like the onrush of the water now on its way to Southern California from Parker Lake on the Colorado River, a flood of growth and development is pouring through the passes into the San Fernando Valley.

Here in the San Fernando Valley our feet are firmly planted in the Good Earth which always has been and always will be a source of the fundamental element of life - food.

Above and around and among us are The Stars - that lead the world to our doors - and lead us ever on to a higher range of vision!

The magi have caught the vision. The Stars lead on. Let us follow wisely.

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Ladies and Gentlemen:

The honor which has been accorded me of addressing you at the dedication of this splendid building is one which moves me deeply. The occasion carries me back to the time when standing here I visualized a great community in the heart of the fertile fields of San Fernando Valley. From that distant day I can travel in memory down the road of progress through the years to this day and to this occasion. Through the vista of the years this structure seems to me to rise a monument to all that had gone before, and not only that, it stands a progressive symbol of the greater and finer years that are to come within the view of the friendly encircling mountains looking down upon our happy homes.

Napolean, when he addressed his soldiers ~~standing~~ before going into battle on the plains of Egypt, standing beside the Pyramids, said, "Two thousand years of history are looking down upon us." These mountains have stood vastly longer than the Pyramids and have seen greater and more constructive things take place. They have seen growth. Out of the shimmering grasses of this sunny earth, have come homes and gardens. The germ from which they sprung is rising and expanding in accord with the inexorable laws of nature.

The fusion of the waters of the towering Sierras with this fertile soil has given birth to a still greater growth than in the ancient past, a growth which will broaden and rise in the natural course of events to a productiveness, beauty and culture which we can not conceive of as we stand here today.

In the history of this valley there stands out one incident greater than all the rest. On the fifth of November in 1913, there gathered on the northern slope of this valley, a great and expectant throng. Thousands of people stood in reverent quietness looking at one of the greatest engineering accomplishments ever performed by the hand of man. At a signal the gates were opened and the water from the aqueduct came rushing down the slope in an increasing torrent. "There it is, take it," said the (grand old) man who had done the job.

Those simple words are engraved in every heart that loves this valley. In an equally impressive way those in authority could say here today of this public building, erected by and devoted to the use of the people living here, "There it is, take it."

Athens and Rome grew from tiny villages to become reigning cities of the world, and whose accomplishments have not been dimmed by time, and perpetuated their spirit in the public buildings they erected. Our growth has reached a point where the achievement of the people requires a more monumental form of expression. The pioneering days are past.

There seems to me a law and a purpose which runs through all of nature. In long sweeps growth takes place toward an invisible perfection. There is endless change. One stage gives way to another, each in turn forming the basis for a new movement onward. This is true of the world, of continents, of our own pleasant valley. The homely little seed of the rose when planted in the ground sends out its roots and stems by successive stages and rises through the green

plant to reach a culmination in a gorgeous bloom.

Few of us are capable of visualizing this valley as it existed before the coming of the white man. From mountain top to mountain top nature existed in her unrestricted way. As the seasons followed one another, the grasses turned from green to brown. The grassy plains broken here and there by water courses and an occasional tree and shrub, ~~was~~ were the haunt of countless birds and beasts living in an animal paradise. Later the occasional Indian bands found there an abundant supply of all they required for the fullest life they could realize.

The next stage in the evolution of the valley came with the Mission Fathers. It has been said of them that "they never blundered practically or artistically in the selection of the sites for their Missions. They unerringly chose from the California wilderness the garden spots and a hundred years of experiment have failed to find anything better than their first judgment." Certainly here has the vision and penetration of their minds been gloriously verified.

Just about a hundred years ago their development reached its fullest swing and in the course of events had to go ~~their~~ its way and give place to a new and greater ~~human~~ development. The course of nature alone, is slow. Thousands of years are but a page in her book. When the purpose of man ~~was~~ is added to the purpose of nature the speed of progress becomes multiplied untold times and with ever-increasing speed. The Mission Fathers in addition to their ~~un~~intended herds, cultivated a fruitful garden. For this purpose water was necessary. It is interesting to know that the second year after the

founding of the Mission an aqueduct was built to a small stream flowing out of the hills on the north side of the valley. A few years later they built a dam across the Los Angeles River and immediately found themselves in legal conflict with the Pueblo of Los Angeles. They lost that fight and went back to their herds.

When the more aggressive white man came on the scene he extended grazing possibilities to their ultimate. The occasional droughts which left the valley bare at the end of the season were his greatest fear and concern. The great drought of 1863-64 put an end to the romance of the great herds. At the end of that season the valley floor was a pattern of bleached skeletons.

Under a group of enterprising men came the great wheat ranches which ~~have~~ lasted down to our day. With this development are identified the great names of Van Nuys, Lankershim, Porter, and Maclay. The abundant yields of the valley paid tremendous returns in spite of an occasional crop failure resulting from a dry year.

The next link in the chain of progress began with the incident which I previously mentioned. The Owens River water furnished the one element the valley lacked. A new and a higher use was ushered in before which the wheat fields gradually disappeared. In their place sprang up homes surrounded by orchards and gardens. Towns were buil~~ting~~t and homes, connected by a maze of highways, sprang up as though from the planting of a magic seed. Schools, Churches, and the refinements of advanced civilization revealed the combined purpose of man and nature maturing beyond the pressing and immediate needs of life. Here in beauty and comfort in the midst of productivity, was ~~was~~ to be found the blessings of the earth and a full life.

Many like myself with impaired health found here that most precious wordly asset. Our great citizen, Mr. Harry Chandler, who was one of the greatest friends and benefactors the valley had known, came here under like circumstances and was rewarded with the same result. His vision, and that of his associates in the Suburban Homes Land Company, in my estimation, advanced by many years the natural fruition that we now see about us.

Behind us lies this progression from ~~bare~~ raw and ~~inadequate~~ naked nature to contented homes within and without in the finest sense of the word.

We are today dedicating a monument to the past and a milestone in our progress. The countless years that lie behind are summed up in the single word "growth." Always onward and upward have we gone. Here there is no stopping. The glory of the past is the least part of it. What lies beyond behind the dim or unseen veil of the future, is assuredly the larger and finer part. As ~~one standing~~ if I stood in the tower of this restful building, and looked down I can see the valley of the future. With the same confidence that I felt when the first corner ~~stone~~ stake was set where now ~~lies~~ stands the Town of Van Nuys, I can see what must inevitably be the course of progress. ~~see this valley of the future.~~

From mountain to mountain in all directions, interspersed with jewel-like cities, will lie a mosaic of comfortable homes surrounded by garden acres. From these homes will daily travel back and forth to the great industries which are now building here in the Southwest, a contented people engaged in all the useful occupations of man. The work days of the future will be shorter. The number of

days of work each week will be fewer. ~~In~~ the hours not devoted to his work or his profession, the worker will devote with his family, ~~happy hours~~ in the cultivation of his garden which will yield to him throughout every season the best the earth and vine and tree can produce.

This development I visualize for you is the ultimate which we will approach under our present conceptions. Beyond that we need not think. Conceivably there will be in accordance with the law of growth and progress, a still greater future. New inventions, new customs, and new ideas will come to replace the old ones and create a new order before which even the growth I have visualized for you will give way and be displaced.

That is the story. We are in the middle of it. We look behind and see great thing have been done, and we look beyond with confidence and know that the future has still greater things in store.

The following address was made by W. P. Whitsett, founder of Van Nuys and chairman of the Metropolitan Water Board, in the radio program sponsored by the Van Nuys Chamber of Commerce.

BACK TO LAND PLEA MADE IN RADIO BROADCAST FRIDAY

W. P. Whitsett, Founder of Van Nuys, Tells Listeners of Great Possibilities for Economic Independence That Awaits Thousands With Reduced Incomes

Using as his subject, "The Return to the Soil Movement," W. P. Whitsett, founder of Van Nuys, Friday afternoon made one of the most interesting and informative addresses ever broadcast in the interests of the Valley. His talk delivered over radio station KELW during the fifteen minutes allotted to the Public Relations Committee of the Van Nuys Chamber of Commerce was as follows:

As Mr. Kaufman, the Radio announcer stated, the return to the soil movement has always held for me a vital interest. We cannot get away from the fact that practically everything we eat comes from the soil.

Some years ago, after having started the town of Van Nuys as a community supported by intensive agricultural production, I felt a strong desire to see for myself the manner in which the nations of Europe with more years of civilization behind them, and with more congested populations, were solving their problems of living and food supply.

I went to Germany, France, Belgium and other countries, and saw their small, neat farms carefully cared for and wonderfully productive. In France, for instance, I saw numerous places where the people living in communities went daily back and forth to the farms they cultivated. They seemed very happy.

Of much greater interest than these, were the gardens immediately surrounding some of the large industrial centers of Europe. Here a man working in industry would maintain a small plot of ground, sometimes less than an acre in extent, to which he would devote his evenings and wee-ends, traveling back and forth on his bicycle, and producing sufficient vegetables and other products to meet most of the food requirements of his family.

The significant thing that I want to point out about this arrangement is the fact that the man was regularly employed in industry but at the same time was supplying a great deal of the food requirements of his family direct from the soil. That is a lesson which we must learn. This nation started as an agricultural nation. Then came industry resulting in a concentration of the people in cities, which reached its peak following the Great War.

In leaving behind them their land, our people lost to a great degree their security. Instead of living off the production of the soil which they produced with their own labor, they now spend their entire time at machines or desks producing commodities, a large part of which must eventually be exchanged for food. While the job lasts, food can be obtained in this way without difficulty. When the job fails and the pay stops, the individual is faced with the problem of finding something which can be turned over to the food producer in exchange for his product.

Machine Age Influence

The machine age is gradually resulting in not only shorter hours of work a day, but fewer days work a week to produce the consumptive requirements of the nation. Shorter hours of labor mean

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decreased income and emphasize the necessity of supplementing the individual's producing capacity.

Unless this problem is met, the strain and suffering of recurring depressions will become greater and greater. The only permanent solution is for our people to turn again to the soil from which they have been getting further and further away. The food required every day by every worker is now largely grown by some one else, and must be transported at increased cost and paid for out of never certain wages.

Until our workers are able to draw from the soil at least the minimum food necessary to sustain their bodies in health in work and out of work, there can be no security and there must be charity.

Future Living Conditions

In the future, industry and productive garden soil can and will be more closely associated. To the individual a vital economic question is not how much wages he receives, but how well can he eat, how comfortably can he live, and to what extent can he rely upon himself for these basic necessities of life.

For the solution of this problem no other place in the world is so ideally adapted as Southern California to sustaining a rural living industrial system. Here an acre of good land with water, will supply many of the food requirements of a family clear through the calendar. One man with a few hours of intelligent labor morning and night can keep his acre trim and his larder full.

During the day when there is work, he is contented at machine or counter. When dull times or old age come along, he falls back to his comfortable home without regret, his savings giving him whatever necessities of life the land will not provide.

Definite Migration On

As a direct consequence of reduced income and increased unemployment, the American nation is now in the midst of a very definite migration from the city to the soil. The life which these newcomers to the land are finding is not that with the hardships of the lonely farms of our youth of of which our parents and grandparents tell.

They are going to pleasant homes surrounded by a garden of an acre or more in extent in the territories immediately adjacent to the large industrial centers. In these regions all the conveniences enjoyed by the city dweller are available. He has immediate contact with the city life by means of his car over the paved highway systems.

Electricity lights his home, gas cooks his food and warms his house, and he has water under pressure for all the requirements of both his house and his garden. His own garden supplies him with fruits, vegetables, berries and other produce of better quality and fresher than he is able to buy. Such requirements as demand actual cash are met by working in the adjacent industries when employment is available.

Valley Ideally Located

For such a development the San Fernando Valley is most ideally suited on acount of its location, climate and the deep fertile, silty soil. It has ample improved streets abundant water under pressure and all other utilities such as gas, electricity and telephone. It is close to increasing industry.

Highly improved highways lead to all parts of Southern California. The most important fact is that a garden acre with all of these advantages can now be obtained for less than the price for which a singe lot formerly sold.

Great Possibilities Here

Think what it means to you to be able to purchase a garden acre for $1,000, with all these improvements installed and paid for. Think of being able to build a modern 6-room house for $2500—a garden acre home complete in the city of Los Angeles for $3500. We invite your attention to the Garden Acre Home possibilities of the Van Nuys district.

In summary remember this: a Garden Acre Home in the San Fernando Valley with its cheap, abundant water, is a job in reserve—a pension in old age. That Garden Acre Home can be had complete under present conditions in the highly developed Van Nuys District for $3,500.

The Van Nuys district is in the City of Los Angeles.

20 minutes from Hollywood;

20 minutes to the University of California;

30 minutes to the ocean;

30 minutes to the fastest growing industrial center in the western part of the United States.

STATEMENT OF W. P. WHITSETT, CHAIRMAN, BOARD OF DIRECTORS, THE METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA MADE BEFORE THE FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE OF THE UNITED STATES SENATE.

Gentlemen:

My distinguished associates, in opposing the ratification of the proposed Mexican Treaty, are presenting to you the legal rights upon which our case is firmly based. They are pointing out the vast economic losses to the United States as a whole which will result from robbing the southwestern states of water required for their ~~defense activities and~~ post-war development, in order that Mexico may grow more cotton.

The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, of which I have had the honor of being Chairman since its organization in 1928, will present more of these facts through our general counsel and engineering staff. In the brief time allotted me, I would like to point out one fundamental American principle involved in this treaty which might easily escape the notice of those whose time allows only a casual examination of this vital issue.

Because I know you are as much interested in the human factors involved as in the technical facts, let me sketch briefly the part played by the Metropolitan Water District, which comprises fourteen cities of Southern California, which, with adjacent areas, have three and one-half million inhabitants. When Boulder Dam was a blueprint in Washington, the Government refused to appropriate the $125,000,000 for its construction until assured that the cost of the dam, plus interest on the Government money advanced, would be repaid through the sale of power and water made available by the dam. The Government demanded that this repayment be guaranteed by firm contracts. The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California joined with other public and private agencies in California and entered into such contracts with the Government, and these communities thus bound themselves to pay for sufficient Boulder Dam hydro-power to satisfy the Government demands.

The Metropolitan Water District, as a matter of fact, bound itself by firm contracts to pay for ~~about~~ 36 per cent of the firm power available at Boulder Dam - and the District agreed to pay for this large amount of hydro-power regardless of whether or not it actually needed or used the power. Thus, the construction of Boulder Dam was brought about and made possible.

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With construction of the dam thus assured, the people of the California cities which comprise the Metropolitan Water District went forward with plans to finance and build the Colorado River Aqueduct. In September, 1931, the people of these District cities authorized, by a majority of five to one, a bond issue of $220,000,000 to finance the initial cost of the giant aqueduct system. These bonds are a first mortgage on all of the real assets of the people in the District cities. This heavy obligation was assumed in order to finance the building of an aqueduct of 400 miles in length - an aqueduct which now is carrying water across mountains and desert wastes to supply the ever increasing needs of agriculture, industry, ~~and~~ homes and military installations on the semi-arid coastal plain of Southern California.

The job of building the Colorado River Aqueduct included ~~the blasting of 91 miles of 18-foot diameter tunnels through mountain barriers, and~~ the building of five huge pumping plants required to raise the water a total of 1600 feet before it can flow by gravity into a terminal reservoir ready for distribution to the industries, defense establishments and homes situated within the territory of the Metropolitan Water District. To operate the aqueduct pumping plants the District required electric power, and it was for this power that the District bound itself to pay for, up to 36% of the total firm output from Boulder Dam. The District did not require any such large amount of power in its early days of operation, and still does not require any such quantity of power; but it nevertheless assured the building of Boulder Dam by contracting to pay for this power whether used or not. As a result of these contracts between the Metropolitan Water District and the Government, the District thus far has paid out more than $4,500,000 to the United States Government for Boulder Dam power which neither the District nor anyone else has ever used. This $4,500,000 has come out of the pockets of the taxpayers of the 14 cities constituting the District.

In meeting this heavy obligation our people have never faltered. We had made that kind of a contract with the United States in order to bring about the building of Boulder Dam. We had absolute confidence in the good faith of our Government to fulfill its end of the contracts, and we were willing to wait and to continue paying this high premium for insurance for our future protection. Our first reward has been the great satisfaction of having this great surplus of electric power ready and waiting to serve and activate the giant war industries and military installations which became so

vitally essential in Southern California when the massacre at Pearl Harbor plunged this country into war. Our people have paid dearly for the guarantee we made to our Government in Washington to assure the repayment of the cost of Boulder Dam, but we will never regret the price we are paying if our Government honestly fulfils its end of the contract to make available to our people the Colorado River water essential to our region in ~~all~~ the years ahead. I have spoken of the heavy obligation that has been assumed by the communities within our Metropolitan Water District to bring about the construction of Boulder Dam. Please allow me to speak for only a few moments regarding the financing of the Colorado River Aqueduct. To finance the initial construction of the aqueduct, as I have stated, our people voted in 1931 to assume the heavy financial obligation of bonds in the amount of $220,000,000. Approximately $180,000,000 of these bonds were sold to the Reconstruction Finance Corporation at an initial interest rate of 5 per cent, later ~~slightly~~ reduced to an average of about 4 per cent. These bonds have long since been sold by the R.F.C. on the public market at premiums which returned to the Government a net profit estimated to exceed $13,000,000. Thus, it can plainly be seen, the Colorado River aqueduct has not been benefited by one dollar of Federal aid, but on the contrary has contributed heavily to the financial benefit of our Government's treasury. Once more, permit me to state that our people do not regret their decision to assume the tremendous aqueduct bond obligation. It was essential that this obligation be assumed if the vitally strategic area on the south coastal plain of California is to go forward with an orderly and necessary program of development. Our people were ready and willing to take up the full burden of this obligation because they had utter faith in the sanctity and dependability of their Colorado River water contracts with the United States Government, contracts made pursuant to the terms and provisions of the Boulder Canyon Project Act which was adopted by Congress in 1928. Insofar as the members of the Board of Directors was concerned, let me say that not one of our nineteen members on the Board in those days ever questioned the validity of our water contracts with the Government. It never occurred to any one of us that the time would come when our Government would not keep faith with its own people in the complete fulfillment of its pledged word to make the water available as required. Realizing the imperative need of our region for the Colorado River water we enthusiastically advocated the approval of the aqueduct bond issue by our people, and they, in their turn, as I have

previously noted, did authorize this bond issue by the decisive majority of five to one. Incidentally, allow me to point out, that no member of the Board of Directors of the Metropolitan Water District has ever received one dollar of remuneration for his time and services on that Board. It has been a civic enterprise of the highest order in which we have been proud as citizens of the United States to participate. The construction of the Aqueduct was started in 1932, in the trough of the depression, when we were able to choose from the eminent engineers of the United States those best qualified to do this unprecedented job. And those engineers, in turn, were able to secure efficient assistants and provide jobs for 38,000 men, at the highest wages of that day, and under the best of working conditions.

The Aqueduct was completed in June, 1941 -- five months before Pearl Harbor. The citizens of the District are proud of this great engineering achievement -- not only because it provides life-giving water, which is the prime necessity for the future development of farms and homes for our successors and for returning veterans in some of the most fertile valleys on God's earth -- but because it has made possible the water and power for the gigantic Defense Plants which are producing planes and ships by the tens of thousands, and other implements of war -- the prime necessity of the United States and our Allied Nations today. I am quite sure, Mr. Chairman, that you and the other distinguished members of your committee will agree when I remind you that the end of this war will not eliminate the continuing need for naval and military installations and for the continuing operation of heavy industrial plants on the Pacific Coast. We have learned, belatedly, that the oceans no longer are effective barriers against aggressor nations. And, until some world organization far more tangible than any now in operation, has been tried and proven, the United States in common prudence must maintain an adequate and ever ready Pacific Coast defense. Southern California is today and must surely remain a strategic area in this general zone of our Pacific defense. The Colorado River is the "last water hole" for Southern California. The proposed Treaty, in giving to landowners in Mexico Colorado River water which is vitally essential in the maintenance of an adequate defense in this area, I respectfully submit, reveals a shocking lack of foresight in a Nation which ought to have learned some bitter lessons since December 7, 1941. President Roosevelt, in his inaugural address said - "We may make mistakes. But they must never be mistakes which result from faintness of heart or abandonment of moral principle."

It would be easy to make the mistake of ratifying this treaty, unless it were thoroughly studied against a background of all the facts. Such an examination brings out the moral issue to which I would direct your attention.

The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California and other agencies here represented had no "faintness of heart" when they took upon themselves the building of Boulder Dam, the Colorado River Aqueduct, the All-American Canal, and mortgaged their homes and farms and their children's homes to pay for them. I ask you if it would not be an abandonment of moral principle to break faith with such courageous citizenship?

The United States today is writing, with the blood of your sons and grandsons, across the broad expanse of the Pacific and on the battlefields of Europe, its belief in the principles of freedom, equality, and justice, ~~and humanity,~~ for which American patriots of former generations sacrificed their lives and fortunes.

Not only for ourselves do we defend these principles, but for all mankind, and we hold the dream of a world order in which such ideals may ultimately be secured.

In these days of planning for world peace, does it not become our first responsibility to see that Justice is administered at home, among the states of our own union? For any sort of lasting peace must be founded on honor and integrity.

The INJUSTICE of giving to Mexico more water than that to which she is entitled, -- in open breach of contract by the United States with its own citizens after they have in good faith conserved and planned the use of such waters for the benefit of our nation as a whole -- is nothing short of an abandonment of moral principle.

Injustice more than any single evil, eats at the heart of mankind, and is the hardest to forget or forgive.

The United States is striving to build good will and friendship throughout the world. But real friendship is not made by the giving of material things. It is made by being the kind of person whom a neighbor can absolutely trust and depend upon. This applies to both individuals and nations.

Good will can never be established by the expediency of injustice -- even if the injustice is practiced "within the family."

Foreign relations, I humbly submit, cannot be any better than the domestic policies on which they are founded. And no treaty is any better than the honor of the countries signing it.

Our neighbor statesmen in Mexico cannot honestly respect a treaty made by our government in violation of its contract with the Southwestern States any more than one of you gentlemen would respect a trade I made with you by robbing my own son to do it.

You recall it was Germany that called written agreements "scraps of paper." We see the results today. When any nation, ~~without due process of law,~~ makes "scraps of paper" out of its own contracts it has taken a long step on the road to chaos.

Such abandonment of principle ~~would be~~ hard to justify in the United States today -- while our boys are dying to re-establish the principles of justice and humanity, essential to any civilized order.

For the crucial years ahead, when we shall be sacrificing ever more and more in the name of Democracy, Justice and Humanity, calling for the perfect unity and team-work of every state in the Union, we can ill afford to plant the seeds of animosity between the states of California and Texas. And we should so guard the principle of Justice in our domestic and foreign policies that when we gather one day around a conference table with Mexico and our other good neighbors, to talk to and with them about a just and lasting peace for all the world, they may have no cause to mistrust our sincerity.

WHT
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Gentlemen:

My distinguished associates, in opposing the ratification of the proposed Mexican Treaty, are presenting to you the legal rights upon which our case is firmly based. They are pointing out the vast economic losses to the United States as a whole which will result from robbing the southwestern states of water requisite for their defense activities and post-war development in order that Mexico may grow more citrus and cotton. Engineers are telling you of the annihilating floods which will threaten the great winter gardens of the Imperial Valley if the plans of this treaty go through.

The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, of which I have had the honor of being Chairman since its organization in 1928, will present more of these facts through our general counsel and engineering staff. In the brief time allotted me, I would like to point out two fundamental American principles involved in this treaty which might easily escape the notice of those whose time allows only a casual examination of this treaty.

Because I know you are as much interested in the human factors involved as in the technical facts, let me sketch briefly the part played by the Metropolitan Water District, which comprises fourteen cities of Southern California, with approximately two and one-half million inhabitants. When Boulder Dam was a blueprint in Washington, the Government refused to appropriate the $120,000,000 for its

construction until its entire cost was guaranteed by firm contracts for the power produced there. The Metropolitan Water District then organized and voted$220,000,000 worth of bonds, which constituted a first mortgage on all the real assets of the member cities. This bond issue was to finance the building of the Colorado River Aqueduct, which would carry water across 400 miles of mountains and desert wastes to make possible agriculture, industry, and homesites on the coastal plain. This meant blasting 91 miles of 18-foot tunnels through the higher mountains, and pumping the water through five gigantic pumping plants to a height of 1645 feet before it could flow by gravity into a terminal reservoir ready for distribution to the cities of the District. The power used in construction of the Aqueduct and in pumping the water was contracted for at Boulder Dam -- the District guaranteeing to pay for 36% of the power generated there, whether used or not. This guarantee by the District insured the amortization of the cost of Boulder Dam, and so flashed the green light for its construction.

Not one penny spent by the District in this gigantic project was donated by the United States Government, or any of its agencies. The $220,000,000 was borrowed from the R. F. C., which issued and sold (at a premium) __% interest-bearing first mortgage bonds to cover the entire amount. And the two and one-half million citizens of the District cities voted these bonds on their faith in the

sacredness of their contract with the United States Government under the Boulder Canyon Project Act, enacted into law by Congress in _____. Because I, with the eighteen other members of the District Board of Directors, knew the necessity of water-development in the West to make possible any other development; and because it never occurred to us to question the validity of a contract made between the United States Government and any group of its own citizens, we enthusiastically advocated this bond issue, which was voted 5 to 1. Incidentally, no member of the Board of Directors of the District has ever received a single dollar of remuneration for his time and services. It has been a civic enterprise of the highest order, in which we are proud to be participants.

The construction of the Aqueduct was started in 1932, in the trough of the depression, when we were able to choose from the eminent engineers of the world those best qualified to do this unprecedented job. And those engineers in turn were able to secure efficient assistants and provide jobs for 35,000 men, at the highest wages of that day, and under the best of working conditions, with recreation facilities provided at every camp along the 400-mile line of construction. The Aqueduct was completed in June, 1941 -- five months before Pearl Harbor. The citizens of the District are proud of this great engineering achievment -- not just

because it provides life-giving water, which is the prime necessity for the future development of farms and homes for our successors and for returning veterans in some of the most fertile valleys on God's earth -- but because it has made possible the water and power for the gigantic Defense Plants which are producing planes and ships by the tens of thousands, and other implements of war -- the prime necessity of the United States and our Allied Nations today.

The District, together with other agencies in California, Nevada, and Arizona, have actually invested 533 millions in developments predicated on the United States Government's contract guaranteeing that water stored behind Boulder Dam should be used "exclusively within the United States."

And now, having achieved what seemed impossible in surmounting legal, economic, and physical barriers, we find ourselves faced by a threat which would seem the ultimate impossibility to every American citizen who has gazed on our Goddess of Liberty, holding aloft the well-balanced scales of Justice. This unbelievable threat comes in the proposed Mexican Treaty, which, in essence, makes "scraps of paper" of all contracts made under the Boulder Canyon Project Act.

President Roosevelt, in his widely-acclaimed inaugural address last Saturday, said - "We may make mistakes.

But they must never be mistakes which result from faintness of heart or abandonment of moral principle." It would be easy to make the mistake of ratifying this treaty unless it were thoroughly studied against a background of all the facts. Such an examination brings out the moral issue to which I would direct your attention.

The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California and other agencies here represented had no "faintness of heart" when they took upon themselves the building of Boulder and Parker Dams, the Colorado River Aqueduct, the All-American Canal, and mortgaging their's, and their children's properties to pay for them. Iask you if it would not be an abandonment of moral principle to break faith with such courageous citizenship?

America today is fighting for principles. Those principles you have often heard most ably set forth in the American's Creed - "I believe in a government of the people, by the people, for the people . . . established upon those principles of freedom, equality, justice and humanity for which American patriots sacrificed their lives and fortunes." If this injection of a creed seems irrelevant, let me remind you that a creed is only a declaration of <u>beliefs</u>, and that the world today is aflame with war because the Axis powers hold to beliefs entirely incompatible with those of the Allied Nations.

The United States today is writing, with the blood of your sons and grandsons, across the broad expanse of the Pacific and on the battlefields of Europe, its belief in the principles of freedom, equality, justice, and humanity, for which American patriots of former generations sacrificed their lives and fortunes.

And the immortal phrase "government of the people, by the people, for the people" has so captured the heart of the world that Mr. Winston Churchill adapted it last week in his declaration of policy for the liberated nations.

Not only for ourselves do we defend these principles, but for all mankind, and we hold the dream of a world order in which such ideals as the Four Freedoms may be secured.

Statesmen admit plans for such a state are nebulous. Yet out of such high visions American was born -- to be in our time the greatest nation of free men yet known to history.

In these days of planning for world peace, does it not become our first responsibility to see that Justice is administered at home, among the states of our own Union? For any sort of lasting peace must be founded on honor and integrity.

The two charges I would make against the Mexican Treaty are, (1) injustice, and (2) abandonment of self-government. Both are serious affronts to the first principles of Americanism.

The injustice of giving to Mexico more water than that to which she is lawfully entitled -- in open breach of contract by the United States with three of its sovereign states, after they have in good faith conserved and planned the use of such waters for the benefit of our nation as a whole -- is nothing short of an abandonment of moral principle. The further fact that these waters are being traded to Mexico in return for waters of the Rio Grande to benefit Texas robs the deal of even the merit it might have as an outright gift in the name of the "good neighbor policy."

California is traditionally bound to Mexico in bonds of friendship. Annually large groups of Californians make good will tours through Mexico to its exotic capital, and hospitality is constantly exchanged across the border.

Likewise, Californians admire and highly respect the Great Lone Star State of Texas, with its uncounted resources, so different, yet complementary to our own. But the flagrant injustice in this treaty -- trading the legal and moral rights of California, Nevada, and Arizona for the benefit of Texas, will plant the seeds of animosity, the like of which have long ago made Europe a festering mass of small hatreds which smoulder constantly,and intermittently flame into war.

Injustice, more than any single evil, eats at the heart of mankind, and is the hardest to forget or forgive.

The United States is striving to build good will and friendship throughout the world. But real friendship is not made by the of material things. It is made by being the kind of person whom a neighbor can absolutely trust.

Good will can never be established by the expediency of injustice -- even if the injustice is practiced "within the family."

Foreign relations cannot be any better than the domestic policies on which they are founded. And no treaty is any better than the honor of the countries signing it.

Our neighbor statesmen in Mexico cannot honestly respect a treaty made by our government in violation of its contract with the Southwestern States any more than one of your gentlemen would respect a present I made to you by robbing my own son.

You recall it was Germany that called treaties "scraps of paper." We see the results today. When any nation, without due process of law, makes "scraps of paper" out of its own contracts it has taken a long step on the road to chaos.

Such abandonment of principle would be hard to justify in the United States today -- while our boys are dying to re-establish the principles of justice and humanity, essential to any civilized order.

Another provision of the treaty violates a second principle of Americanism, as fundamental as justice. The creation of a Commission to henceforth control the international waters between the United States and its border countries would include the water we share with Canada as well as Mexico. The Constitution of the United States provides that all treaties be ratified by the Senate, which is chosen by the people and responsible to them. This treaty would in perpetuity remove all control of our international waters from Congress -- together with expenditures connected with their development -- putting them under an appointed commission who would not have to be answerable to the people. This is a violation of the principle most sacred to America - government of the people, by the people, for the people.

Therefore, in the name of Justice, and the right of democratic self-government, I ask your consideration to this treaty.

For the crucial years ahead, when we shall be sacrificing ever more and more in the name of Democracy, Justice and Humanity, calling for the perfect unity and teamwork of every state in the Union, we can ill afford to plant the seeds of animosity between the states of California and Texas. And we should so guard the principle of Justice in our domestic and foreign policies that when we gather one day

around a conference table with Mexico and our other good neighbors, to talk to and with them about a just and lasting peace for all the world, they may have no cause to mistrust our integrity.

Since speaking to the Water and Power Resources Committee of the Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce on the policies and program of the District, I have received a number of requests for a copy of my remarks. It has occurred to me that you might also be interested in what I have said on this subject and am therefore enclosing a copy.

In discussing the policy and program established by the Board I have endeavored to follow strictly the record of our action. Wherever I expressed my personal convictions I tried to make it clear that it did not necessarily represent the policy of the Board.

In this connection I would like to take this opportunity to say that the more I study the present trend of the District's policies the more I become concerned that we are going to exhaust our remaining funds before we have succeeded in placing the project on a satisfactory operating basis.

After our splendid record during the period of construction I think it would be a great tragedy if the savings which have been effected are not conserved and used to the greatest possible advantage in building up our revenues from the sale of water. As I have said repeatedly, it is my concern that in undertaking to build elaborate treatment plants and to deliver two kinds of water throughout a territory as large and as varied as Southern California, the funds we have saved will be exhausted before we realize it and with very little accomplished towards building up our water load. My experience

with the District and elsewhere is that once a precedent is established there is no backing up. The demand is always for more and larger concessions and refinements.

I am not yet convinced that the need for the water softening plant has been demonstrated. In my opinion, the early demand will be primarily agricultural, and the added cost of the treatment is going to curtail consumption and result in our member cities continuing to use their present supplies as long as it is economical to do so. I would have been favorable to the building of a treatment plant on an experimental scale, but two 50,000,000 gallon a day units with the proposal of one or more additional plants can hardly be said to be experimental.

It has been my hope since we first started construction that we could finish the initial development with an unexpended balance of between thirty and forty million dollars. With this sum on hand we would have a great bargaining lever in building annexation and some tangible inducement to offer areas needing water. Our procedure would be something like this. A group of residents from some area on the coastal plain comes in and asks what they have to do to get water. We then define to them the annexation unit to which they belong as determined in advance by the District and inform them of the steps preceding their formal application. They will then want to know what the District will do in the way of distributing systems. At this point we should,in my opinion, ask them to estimate the amount of water which they would guarantee to take at the prices

fixed by the District. Then on the basis of the water revenue which will be derived from their particular area, the District can compute the amount which it would be justified in spending from its reserve in order to get the additional business. My thought is that such expenditures by the District might,at least in part,be amortized from the water revenues over a comparatively short period of time, say 20 years, so as to maintain a rotating reserve fund from the amount of our construction savings from which more distribution facilities could be built. Then in later years,as the District begins to approach a self-liquidating basis and as our load because of growth and development becomes less and less agricultural and more domestic and industrial, we would be in a position to add refinements such as softening and filtration.

At the start of this letter I had not intended to get into this discussion again. However, the subject is very close to my heart and I want very much to have you and the other Board members know my thoughts and where I stand. On the other hand, I would appreciate very much having a frank statement of your views on this important subject.

The policies and program we establish during the coming year are probably going to be among the most important and far-reaching of the project's history. The $20,000,000 or so that we have saved will not go very far when it comes to building treatment plants and delivery lines unless a very careful and far-seeing program is worked out.

We now have our insurance against drought. Because of

depression and a few years of above normal rainfall we are probably five or more years ahead of our original schedule. We have about $20,000,000 left with which to build up our revenues and get the project on a sound operating basis. When this money is gone, the District, in my opinion, is going to be in the position of a beggar with a tin cup. Additional bond funds for the Aqueduct will probably prove to be impossible. Our whole future depends on how wisely we make use of our construction savings.

Yours very truly,

NHT
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WHAT THE METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT AQUEDUCT MEANS TO SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

By

W. P. Whitsett
Chairman of The Metropolitan Water District

(Delivered to the Los Angeles League of Women Voters Jan.21, 1931)

At the request of your President, Mrs. O. Shepard Barnum, I have come to speak to you today on the Metropolitan Water District. Any discussion of water supply in Southern California would be incomplete if the Metropolitan Water District were not included. The people of Southern California are looking confidently to the Metropolitan Water District to provide the water necessary to safeguard our investments and to insure the continuation of our growth.

In regions of little rainfall such as Southern California, water is the key to existence. In making these brief remarks on the Metropolitan Water District, it is my purpose to discuss the evolution of water supply problems in Southern California; our present situation with respect to water supply; and what the bringing in of an additional supply from the Colorado River will mean to the future of Southern California.

To thoroughly understand water conditions in Southern California at the present time, we should know the experience of the past. This area in which we live is a part of the great American Desert that stretches from the Pacific Ocean far to the East across Arizona and New Mexico. Its problems are those of the desert and the most important of them is water supply.

Through the ingenuity of man the desert has been pushed back and the delightful area between the mountains and the sea, known as the Metropolitan Area of Southern California, has been made to bloom and flourish. Beyond the mountains still exists the original desert which proved such a tremendous obstacle to the westward advance of pioneers into this area. As long as there has been life in this part of the world, water supply has determined its existence. In a recent conversation with Secretary of the Interior, Dr. Ray Lyman Wilbur, he told me out of his abundant scientific knowledge, some interesting and astounding facts. We were at the time discussing water supply conditions in the Pacific Southwest and he pointed out that all the great beasts whose remains are housed in the museum at Exposition Park, perished as species for lack of water. Some great physical changes took place which caused the climate to become very much dryer. Just what these changes were we do not know. But we do know that of all the various forms of life whose remains have been preserved in the La Brea asphalt pits, the only one which survives at the present time is the little pocket gopher. This little animal, living as it does underground, and subsisting on the roots of plants and the moisture which accumulates in its burrows, was adapted to the resistance of drought, when those that roamed the surface and depended upon vegetation for food, and springs and streams for drink, died.

I do not believe that these facts indicate that the climate of Southern California is becoming dryer, but it does

indicate the importance of rainfall to animal life in desert regions.

Since the coming of the white man the history of this region, particularly in its economic phases, has been expressed in terms of water supply. The missions were established by the Padres near flowing streams. They planted their grain in the moist valleys. In the mission gardens the seeds and cuttings transported from Mexico and Spain grew and flourished with careful watering in a way that astounded the simple mission Fathers. However, the dryness of climate, and the limited markets discouraged agriculture, while the open rolling hills, on which the grasses grew luxuriantly after the winter rains, were conditions ideal for cattle raising. The stock imported by the Spaniards soon multiplied into enormous herds. Their increase, however, eventually overtaxed the meager water resources then available, with the result that when a drought occurred thousands of cattle and horses perished.

The great drought during the years 1862 and 1863 was so dreadful in its destructive effects as to practically put an end to stock raising in Southern California.

Beginning about that time attempts were made at dry farming which proved moderately successful. It was during the latter part of the last century that the San Fernando Valley produced its great crops of hay and grain. Dry farming came to an end with the discovery that the underground gravel beds were filled with water which had accumulated through the ages. The water became available by the development of improved well-drilling

methods and the perfection of pumping machinery. Also, the science of irrigation took a long step forward when the industrious gringo discovered what the mission Fathers had known so well -- that water applied to the fertile soil, under the warm sun of Southern California, produced magnificent fruit in abundant yields.

The story to the present time under the stimulation of improved irrigation practice, has been one of rapid expansion of orchards and farms. This expansion is still going on. During the past eight years, 21,000 additional acres have been planted each year in the Santa Ana basin to citrus fruit alone. The result is naturally and inevitably just what might be expected. Our meager rainfall, which is only from one-third to one-fourth of that in other large centers of population, has not been adequate to keep up with the demands for water. The amount of rain falling on the valleys and mountains during our short winters and percolates into the underground gravels, is not sufficient to restore the quantity that is pumped from the wells. While a great part of the requirement for water in this area is for agricultural purposes, a tremendous supply is also needed for domestic use in homes and to maintain the gardens for which our land is famed. Most of you have witnessed, or are familiar with the growth of the City of Los Angeles, which expanded from a population of 104,000 in 1900 to 1,323,000 in 1930. In order to supply the needs of the multiplying population, an aqueduct 250 miles long was built in 1912 to bring water from the High Sierras.

However, in spite of this additional contribution to our local resources, the consumption now exceeds the total supply by 263 second feet. This shortage at present is an amount of water sufficient to irrigate 25,000 acres of land or to supply 250,000 people for a year. The shortage stated was determined by Mr. Harold Conkling, Chief of the Division of Water Resources of the State of California, after an exhaustive investigation. The shortage which I have stated, of course, is being made up by drawing out of our underground basins, water that has accumulated there during all the ages of the past. The inevitable result has been a continual lowering of the water level in the wells until at the present time in many places throughout Southern California water is being pumped from the astounding depths, exceeding 350 feet. The annual increase in consumption due to the increase in population and in the citrus acreage, and due to the fact that the basins become narrower as they go down, the rate of lowering has become greater each succeeding year. If this continues, we will eventually reach the point where 25,000 acres must be abandoned, or 250,000 people must be asked to leave each year, unless an additional supply is obtained from a source outside of Southern California.

As the water table continues to lower below the level of the sea we are faced with the danger of salt water flowing inland to destroy whatever supply remains. The County Flood Control Engineer recently reported that 45 square miles in the

vicinity of Los Angeles have been encroached upon by salt water from the Pacific Ocean. If our underground basins, on which so many of the cities of Southern California depend, are exhausted, or the water is rendered unfit for use by contamination with salt, before new supplies can be brought in from an outside source, the destruction of property values will be enormous.

The Metropolitan Water District has been assigned the task of bringing in a new supply sufficient for the needs of Southern California for a great many years. The Engineers of the District have investigated all possible sources in the territory surrounding Southern California. As a result of their studies, the Colorado River has been determined the only source capable of supplying a sufficiently large quantity of water, to which an aqueduct can be built at a reasonable cost. The engineering surveys have been in progress for six years. Our Chief Engineer, Mr. F. E. Weymouth, a few months ago concluded his investigations as to the most feasible and economic route and method of bringing water into this area. Since then an Engineering Board of Review consisting of Mr. Thaddeus Merriman, Chief Engineer of the Board of Water Supply of the City of New York, Mr. Richard R. Lyman, Consulting Engineer of Salt Lake City, and Mr. A. J. Wiley, Consulting Engineer of Boise, Idaho, have made an independent investigation. These men were chosen after a careful analysis of the records of the 44 most outstanding engineers of America whose experiences qualified them for the work.

Acting on their recommendations and those of the Chief

Engineer the Board of Directors has officially adopted the Parker Route as the best, safest, and most economical all things being taken into consideration. This route would divert water from the Colorado River at a point in San Bernardino County due east of Los Angeles. It will involve the construction of an aqueduct 252 miles in length. The amount of water supplied will take care of our present overdraft and provide for our growth requirements until at least 1980.

The work of the District is progressing deliberately and surely. Sooner or later the voters residing within the Metropolitan Water District will be called upon to vote the funds necessary to build the project. At that time the District must look to all of the leaders and forward-looking people of Southern California, the women of whom are so well represented in this organization, for support. Through your cooperation the important facts about water supply conditions can be brought home to our people who do not have an opportunity to learn about them.

The coming to Southern California of Colorado River water, which we hope may be brought here soon enough to avert the disaster of a severe drought, will mean a sense of security and stability against the threat of the desert.

The Colorado River is a magnificent stream over 1700 miles long, rising in the heart of the Rocky Mountains. Down its channel flow the rains and melted snows of an area of 244,000 square miles. By drawing from a watershed so great and so diversified, we can eliminate the danger of a local drought affecting Southern California and the Owens Valley.

WHT
7

ADDRESS BY W. F. WHITSETT

(Commissioner of Water & Power of Los Angeles, and director of the Metropolitan Water District, at the annual meeting of the Van Nuys Realty Board)

We are facing the tremendous task of bring water from the Colorado River to Los Angeles, but almost as important an undertaking is the bringing of cheap industrial power to furnish employment for the hundreds of thousandsof persons who are coming to California in expectation of the prosperity era that will follow the opening of the Colorado River Aqueduct.

Expectation is greater at the start than realization. There will be a far greater influx of people into Southern California during the time that the Boulder Canyon Dam and the Colorado River Aqueduct are under construction than immediately after their completion.

No other class of business men will reap a greater profit from this influx than the realtors of Southern California.

During the next few years we will not be faced with the problem of how to get new people to Southern California, but rather how we should take care of them--what we shall put them to work at after they get here.

Water and cheap industrial power are the keys with which we can unlock new flood-gates of population and industry. Southern California has nearly 50% of the entire population of the State, but the same territory has only about 1% of the tributary water of the State (exclusive of the Colorado River.)

In the face of this new incoming population, I wish to sound again a warning that I have given before.

San Fernando Valley is nature balanced, but our carefully adjusted educational, manufacturing and living conditions can be irreparably injured by the activities of exploiting lot subdividers--by the voting of needless special assessment taxes, and by the raising of land prices to a point where it becomes impossible to produce crops profitably--

even by the owners of intensive acre gardens.

These are pitfalls, which we have plainly seen and recognized, but which have all too frequently been disregarded during the last few years.

Let us build a community that must be prosperous because we make it economically sound--a garden city of intensively cultivated small farms.

Hundreds of thousands of persons who have always had a secret ambition to come to California will take the construction of the Boulder Dam as an excuse to come now. Are we going to make them happy, contented citizens, drawing their friends to our garden valley? Or are we going to send them away like we have sent thousands of other Easterners away from Southern California--sore, disgruntled because they were stuck with a useless lot, sold to them under high pressure, at two or three times what it was worth, or would bring for years to come.

Shall we not place these new residents on small farms where they can raise their own poultry, vegetables, rabbits, fruit, berries and other food products, thus conserving the accumulated resources which they have brought with them? Or are we going to cramp them down on a 40 or 50 foot lot, where they will stay until they have consumed their resources and then be compelled to return from whence they came if no permanent employment can be secured?

The Colorado River Aqueduct will have a capacity of 1500 second feet of water as compared to the 400 second feet capacity of the Los Angeles Aqueduct. The Colorado River aqueduct will supply the domestic needs of 7,500.000 people.

Four routes are under consideration for the Colorado River Aqueduct. I have gathered a few brief figures about each of the Routes under consideration and present them to you as follows:

1. The Blythe Route.
   Distance ---------- 259 miles
   Approximate lift ----1630 feet.
   Longest Tunnel ------ 27 miles.
   Next longest tunnel - 5 miles.

2. Bridge Conyon Gravity Route.
   Distance---------- 372 miles.
   Longest Tunnel 80 miles
   Next longest tunnel-- 72 miles

3. Black Canyon Route.
   Distance---------- 343 miles
   Approximate lift ----- 1730 feet.
   Longest Tunnel ------- 20 miles.
   Next longest tunnel--- 15 miles.

4. Picacho Route.
   Distance---------- 243 miles.
   Lift ---------- 1580 feet.
   Longest tunnel ------- 27 miles.
   Next longest tunnel --- 6 miles.

The cost of construction on the most favorable route is estimated at about $150,000.000.00. The Colorado River Aqueduct will be by far the largest aqueduct in the world. The per capita cost of constructing the Colorado River Aqueduct will be about $100.00 per capita based on our present population. On the other hand, the Los Angeles Aqueduct cost approximately $150.00 per capita based on the population of Los Angeles at the time that it was built.

Much has been said about the cost of electrical energy for pumping the water over the Picacho lift or over the Blythe Route, and I would like to give some carefully compiled figures that will help to clear up this point.

With the cost of power at Boulder Dam as 3 mills and with the additional cost of transmission lines together with interest, carrying charges and amortization, it will cost ~~less~~ approximately than 2 cents per 100 cubic feet for all pumping necessary on either the Pichacho or Blythe Route.

The per capita consumption of water in Los Angeles is 125 gallons per day, or less than 17 cubic feet per person. In other words it will cost about three mills per day per person to lift the water from Boulder Dam to Los Angeles.

In closing let me say to those who are contemplating the purchase of land with the hope or belief that it will be benefitted by the construction of the Boulder Dam or the Colorado River Aqueduct, there will be no water for irrigation use made available from the Colorado River Aqueduct. It will be used entirely as a domestic water supply for the cities of the Coastal Plain of Southern California.

All public lands available for future irrigation along the lower Colorado River have been withdrawn from entry and when opened for settlement, will be offered to the United States War veterans first.

The magnitude of these projects and the appeal of new irrigation for wild land could easily be made the foundation for another speculative spree, such as was recently experienced in Florida, and the like of which occurred here in California in 1888.

California of today is conservative and Boom Proof. We showed this by the automatic slowing down of our exciting land expansions following the War, and thanks to the Realtor Organizations, we have a State Commissioner with both power and gumption.

Warnings have been issued by the State of California, and only the very gullible who disregard these warnings will suffer from the fake promotions that attempt to feed upon the real Boulder Dam developments.

Our communities are interlaced, one with the other by paved highways, railroads, telephone and telegraph lines, and innumerable intimacies of commercial activity.

It should be the aim and desire of each of us to strengthen this interlacing by concrete conduits, iron and rivited steel mains through which should flow the water from the Colorado River at the earliest practicable moment, to the end that all might shre in the general prosperity and wealth to be created on the Coastal Plain of Southern California by the very life blood of our growth and industry here--WATER.

WHT
7

AN ADEQUATE WATER SUPPLY AND ECONOMIC PROGRESS ARE SYNONOMOUS, INSEPARABLE TERMS.-

Inadequate water supply-and stagnation and desolation are also inseparable companions.

Six years ago the City of Omaha was partially out of water for a few days.

A panic of fear arose.

The City of San Francisco burned to the ground when the earthquake temporarily disabled her water system.

We of Los Angeles are an exotic people coming here mostly from humid climates.

In this semi-arid land the hot breath of the Desert seeks to wither vegetation and the salts of the Ocean seek to corrode it.

It is an entente alliance which men must cope with.

Two ominous events,-one in Central California, the other nearby us, have transpired that should make us wholly alert to the subject of our local water problems.

It should bring forward the best men with the best brains of the city, willing and ready to serve as they would if their own and their neighbors' homes were burning down.

Due to the constant lowering of the under-ground waters in Southern California, salt water has already seeped into the vacuum and rendered unfit for use many wells which are a mile back from the ocean at El Segundo.

The original artesian wells bored in the vicinity of Long Beach a generation ago and upon which that city depends for water, originally spurted 60 feet above the surface of the ground, while today they are being pumped from a standing water table 50 feet below the surface. This is a drop of 110 feet.

Into this constantly increasing vacuum between sea-level and the surface of the fresh water level of the coastal plane, the corroding salts of the ocean are inexorably seeping and creeping.

Necessity impels Pasadena to divert from the San Gabriel River 30,000 acres feet of flood storm water. The San Gabriel River is the source of the supply for the water basins behind Long Beach and other lower towns, hence legal controversies that will prove bad advertising- have arisen.

Near San Francisco a broader movement of the Ocean salts has occured.

On the Northern arm of that harbor upon the Carquinez Straits and the broad Suisun Bay, many towns and a number of large industries were located. The waters were kept fresh by the flow of the Sacramento and San Joaquin Rivers.

The memory of man cannot recall when those waters were not heretofore fresh.

Population and agricultural development of the upper valley's diverted the flows of those rivers so that in 1924 the salt water from San Francisco had penetrated 26 miles further inland than ever known before.

No great additional development has taken place in that region since.

Established industries existed by means of tank barges bringing down from the upper river two and one-half million gallons of water daily, at a cost of 50 cents or more a thousand gallons. Water rates were multiplied a thousand per cent.

Several small cities suffered from the conditions at the cost of the stagnation of industrial progress and a raise of domestic water from ten cents to $1.00 per hundred cubic feet.

Thousands of acres of the richest agricultural land in the world; viz: the delta islands of those rivers, began to deteriorate from the inflow of salt.

History presents to the eye of the archaeologist spectacular pictures of destruction from drouth too numerous to mention here.

We all remember the story of Bible times when one warrior in the Mesopotania area diverted the water from the canals and river channels and marched in the dry river beds under the walls of the city in his work of distruction.

We are not suffering a crisis in Southern California.

But- a crisis surely impends.

I am impelled to these remarks in the spirit of the old family doctor to the patient with a surplus of energy and a lack of strength.

Picture the panic of fear that occured in Omaha by a shut-off of the water fro a few whole days!-

Imagine that condition in any city of major size!- The roads from the city would be jammed with fleeing inhabitants and the fires of distruction would consume what remained.

Picture a city in an arid land where highways could be choked with fleeing inhabitants without water even for their radiators. Picture the mountainous passes and the desert high ways blocked under the movement of such a group.

Build a picture of any important ocean front city waking up to find that Salt had seeped back into the vacuum caused by the lowering of the underground fresh water tables.

Happily Los Angeles has no such immediate possibility.

Happily we have enough water with moderate expansion, but without annexation or normal progress,- for a ten-year period.

But this foundation is all together too slim.

We are making use of every water source available. There can now be no sense of human security or financial safety without the increased supply from the Colorado water shed and a supply for 25 years ahead, because the phantom of insufficient water is casting its shadow on future transactions.

I would hesitate to emphasize these fundamental facts were the crisis not all together too near and the solution of it happily provided for in the enactment of the Boulder Dam Legislation.

It is not a question that can longer be discussed in chambers. It is known throughout the financial and industrial world.

A recent article in the Saturday Evening Post entitled "Thirsty Cities", stated very plainly to all who could read that the water plane under the whole five counties of Southern California was rapidly falling, which meant that the 31 of our southland cities were depleting their underground water reserves from which comes the largest part of their local supply.

And next to the air we breathe, is the water we drink.

While the facts are by no means a desirable type of publicity, yet we are comforted in the fact that the legislative solution of the problem has been completely provided. All that is required is the forward comfident, vigorous action for which Southern California has ever been noted.

In addition to the passage of the Boulder Dam legislation providing funds by the Federal Goverrment, we have all necessary legislation in the form of the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California. In this district are already united Eleven of our Southern Cities, pepresenting 65 per cent of the population and wealth of the Southland.

Surveys and studies have been made and revised.

A board of consulting engineers has been selected by the Metropolitan Water District, consisting of three of the most eminent men in the engineering profession, based on their experience in great National and world-wide projects.

This board of consulting engineers is comprised entirely of men outside of the State, and their duty will be to select a route that is physically practical upon the basis of the soundest economic principal.

The personnel is as follows:

I master all fear that the Colorado River project can be much delayed or injured by the carping criticism of publicity-seeking engineers or factions working for self-aggrandizement.

The representatives of eleven cities, bound together in the Metropolitan Water District, to make sound our common economic structure, have provided this eminent dis-interested umpire Commission of distinquished National engineers and has empowered them with the responsibility of the choice of the route of the aequaduct which will convey the waters from the dam in the desert to the coastal regions.

When the routei is decided in such manner the matter will be laid before the people of the district in a bond election to carry it thru. Wherefore, it is plain that the issues of the pumping lifts, gravity flows and tunnels should be addressed thru normal channels, to the commission of outside engineers who are charged with the responsibility thereof.

Neither singly or collectively could the members of the Board of the Metropolitan Wqter District be responsible; such a technical decision and the plan adopted is a sure basis for the hope that the waters of the Colorado River will at an early date flow into the water mains of these cities of Southern Cali-
fornia relief from anguish by delay or loss by any incompetence

Obviously, any attempt to becloud the people's mind by perverted controversies of these intricate engineering questions of route would become perfectly transparent upon casual examination, of the individual or corporate interest so selfish that it could not subscribe to these broad plans of an outside dis-interested commission of nationally renowned engineers.

Speaking for the protection of my associates upon the Board of this Metropolitan Water District, I take the liberty now and believe it the duty of my office, to discuss each occasion plainly and candidly with all the folks whose homes and happiness are dependent upon this work.

In this question of route selection a gravity flow canal would mean scores of millions of dollars expended in supplies for pipes, cement and other construction material.

Contrariwise, a route involving pumping and lifting would mean millions of dollars expenditures by private business and manufacturers for dynamos and other pumping equipment.

Past history is the basis of my faith that all these commercial contentions will be hushed in the traditional spirit of old Los Angeles. With water, every citizen, every commercial factor must be on tiptoes to thwart and silence private gains.

Real estate will fluctuate in localities based upon route decisions.

Los Angeles has indeed been fortunate in having her public project monies spent wisely and desired results achieved. In the histories of American communities this has not always been the case. We do not have to go far afield to see the spectacle of a great metropolis which has voted money for outside water supply twice, and the delivery of which, thru engineering financial and political difficulties has not yet been made.

This is the fulcrum of the whole Colorado River project, for the Metropolitan Water District and the Municipal units comprised thereof.

What WILL we ?

There are now seven vacancies existing on the Metropolitan Water Board which are subject to appointment by the Mayor of Los Angeles.

Will our big, outstanding men of business and financial experience accept the call to this greatest public service without pay and/with some possible abuse from malignant, selfish interests?

Will the executive boards of our largest enterprises allow Mayor Porter to draft their biggest men whose names will insure a repetition of the first aequaduct success and anchor the faith of the people of this area to their hopes and prayers for a continued progress.

Mayor Porter may be depended upon to make the right choice, but is he to be restricted and hampered by the latter day idea that big men are too busy to do anything for the public service?

These seven new appointments will constitute the balance of control in the board.

My fellow directors on the board of this momentous undertaking have the right to expect that Los Angeles, of her biggest and most experienced men, will give her best and not leave the Mayor Hobson's choice of self-seekers and aggrandizement planner.

I am pained to hear and discouraged to know of some who declined when asked.

I wish that the Mayor would just select the seven men who ought to help safeguard and insure this foundation of community progress- issue the list and then everybody take the 'phone and pledge your support and aid.

PROGRAM-- PRESENT DAY CLUB-- October 28th-1935.
269th meeting-- 34th year-- Club organized 1902.

1. March

2. America- led by Bob Hinze- Jack Bergin at the piano-
R. E. Weis- Violinist

3. Invocation- Dr. Harry Lincoln Boardman, Pastor.

4. Be seated and announcement by the Pres. T. E. Gore. Everybody shake hands with your neighbors and get acquainted.

5. R. J. Asbury, Membership committee-- will announce that envelopes at the tables will be collected by young men from our representative financial institutions.

6. Dinner

7. Presentation of the gavel to the new Pres. Mr. Arthur G. Paul, who will act as chairman, by the retiring Pres. Mr. T. E. Gore. Gavel manufactured by the Poly Hi wood Shop under the direction of Prof. Wigley.

Mr. Herbert Richmond, jeweler, did the engraving. He has performed this service gratuitously for the last fifteen years. Inscription on gavel.
"Present Day Club, Riverside, California."
"A. G. Paul, President, 1935-36."

8. Presentation of new members of the Executive Board.
O.K. Morton-- Dr. Ray McCarty-- R. J. Asbury

Old Members-- A. G. Paul, W. S. Bell-- Chas. E. Johnson-
Walter D. Clark.
Retiring members-- T. E. Gore-- O. B. Ormiston

9. Community singing-- led by Bob Hinze.

10. In Memorium-- Mr. Frank L. Miller & Dr. Van Zwalenburg-
by Dr. Harry Lincoln Boardman

11. Community singing- led by Bob Hinze- one verse of "Riverside, My Riverside."

12. A Talking Motion picture- operated by _____ & _____
which depicts progress of construction work on the Aqueduct. Time 14 minutes.

13. A short talk on the "Economic Effect upon Riverside County," by R. E. Hampson, Vice Pres. Citizens Bank

14. Introduction of the speaker of the evening,
Mr. W. P. Whitsett, Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Metropolitan Water District.

SUBJECT:
"COLORADO RIVER WATER DEVELOPMENT"- as it affects Riverside County,-- Past-- Present and Future.

15. Discussion

Announce that illustrated folders of Boulder Dam and Lake are supplied through the courtesy of the Los Vegas Chamber of Commerce, also map of Colorado River Aqueduct and roads-- courtesy of Metropolitan Water District.

Next meeting Nov. 25th "Chain Store Tax Bills" 2 speakers.

PRINCIPLES
of the PRESENT DAY CLUB

	Constitution	No	Grand Reform
	By-Laws		Gush
No	Parliamentary Rules		Cant
	"Previous Question"		Formality
	Initiation Fee		Humbug
	Preaching		Long Speeches
	Profanity		Late Hours
	Personalities	No	Scandal
No	Party Politics		Conventionality
	Puns		Cliques
	Post-prandial Naps		Coteries
	Full Dress		"Boss"
	"Dudes"		Salaries
	Mutual Admiration	No	Debts
No	Flowers		Red Tape
	"Encores"		Free Dinners
	Defamation		Motions

No { Deviation from the above

Simply { Rational Recreation / Tolerant Discussion

Do you really appreciate the value of your membership as an individual and the Club's importance as an instrument for the good of the City Beautiful? It is a real good thing, worth many times its cost. Do your bit to help the Club maintain its high standard.

THIS FORM MAY BE USED FOR BOTH OLD AND NEW MEMBERS

Date.....1935

To Secretary of the Present Day Club:

Enclosed find $2.00 in payment of Club dues for the year October 1, 1935, to October 1, 1936.

Name.....

Postoffice Address.....

If a newly proposed member, introduced by.....

.....

DUES $2.00, PAYABLE IN ADVANCE

Should Accompany all Applications for Membership

MEMBERSHIP CONTINUES UNTIL RESIGNATION IS PRESENTED

Present Day Club
ORGANIZED 1902
RIVERSIDE, CAL.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
A. G. PAUL - - - - - President
D. S. BELL - - - - Vice-President
CHAS. E. JOHNSON - Recording Sec'y
WALTER D. CLARK - Sec'y-Treas.
O. K. MORTON
Dr. RAY B. McCARTY
R. J. ASBURY

Reply Card

Put 1c Stamp Here

Walter D. Clark, *Sec'y*

P. O. Box 437

3619 Eighth Street
Telephone 83

Riverside, Cal.

FIRST MEETING OF THE SEASON

THIRTY-FOURTH YEAR

The 269th meeting of the Present Day Club will be held on Monday evening, October 28th, 1935, promptly at 6:15, at Pilgrim Hall, Congregational Church, Seventh and Lemon Streets, Riverside. Hall will be open at 5:30. Come early and get acquainted with your neighbors. Addresses will be followed by five-minute discussions by the members.

SUBJECT:

Colorado River Water Development

as It Affects Riverside County; Past, Present and Future

SPEAKER:

Mr. W. P. Whitsett, Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Metropolitan Water District

A Short talk on the "ECONOMIC EFFECT UPON RIVERSIDE COUNTY," by **C. E. Brouse,** President of Citizens National Trust and Savings Bank.

A TALKING MOTION PICTURE

Which depicts progress of construction work on the Aqueduct, will be shown. Time, 14 minutes.

IN MEMORIAM:

Mr. Frank A. Miller and Dr. C. Van Zwalenburg, by Dr. Harry L. Boardman

Mr. Robert Hinze will lead the Community Singing, with Mr. Jack Bergin at the Piano. Mr. R. E. Weiss, Violinist.

Mr. T. E. Gore, retiring President, will open the meeting and present the gavel to the new President, Mr. Arthur G. Paul.

Supper will be served by the ladies of the Congregational Church. Plates (**60c,** tax included), must be reserved on or before **Saturday, Oct. 26,** at noon. Whether you attend or not you are expected to pay. No one should attend without first notifying the Secretary. **The ladies must know how many to prepare for in advance.**

The Executive Committee is planning an attractive program of topics and speakers for the coming year and need your continued cooperation and support. Worth-while entertainment. Up-to-the-minute addresses.

Open courteous questioning and discussion expected on all topics presented.

SIGN HERE.....

Write Name Plainly

Requests the reservation of.....plate....at **60c** each at the

Present Day Club

ORGANIZED 1902

RIVERSIDE, CAL.

Dinner to be held on Monday evening, promptly at 6:15 o'clock **October 28, 1935**

Mail Before Saturday Noon, October 26th

Non-Member Residents Admitted to but One Meeting Each Year

My Guest .....

WHT
7

WATER FAMINE PHANTOM

Los Angeles: What Will You?

An adequate water supply and economic progress are synonomous, inseparable terms.

An inadequate water supply and stagnation and desolation are also inseparable companions.

Six years ago the City of Omaha was partially out of water for a few days.

A panic of fear arose.

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a generation ago and upon which that city depends for water, originally spurted 60 feet above the surface of the ground, while today they are being pumped from a water table 50 feet below the surface. This is a drop of 110 feet.

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We are not suffering a crisis in Southern California.

But -- a crisis surely impends.

I am impelled to these remarks in the spirit of the old family doctor to the patient with a surplus of energy and a lack of strength.

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Imagine that condition in any city of major size! The roads from the city would be jammed with fleeing inhabitants and the fires of destruction would consume what remained.

Picture a city in an arid land where highways could be choked with fleeing inhabitants without water. Picture the mountain passes and the desert highways blocked by fear-driven people frantic for water.

Create a picture of any important ocean-front city waking up to find that Salt had seeped back into the vacuum caused by the lowering of the underground fresh-water tables.

Happily Los Angeles has no such immediate possibility.

Happily we have enough water with moderate expansion, but without annexation or unusual progress, for a ten-year period.

But this foundation is altogether too slim, when our use of water increases to 84 acre feet per acre per year in the most congested center of the city, where formerly 1-1/2 acre feet was sufficient.

We will make use of every water source available. There can now be no sense of human security or financial safety without the increased supply from the Colorado water-shed and a supply for 25 years ahead, because the phantom of insufficient water is already casting its shadow on future transactions.

I would hesitate to emphasize these fundamental facts were the crisis not altogether too near and the solution of it happily provided for in the enactment of the Boulder Dam Legislation.

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I wish that the Mayor would just select the seven men who ought to help safeguard and insure this foundation of community progress, issue the list, and then everybody take the 'phone and pledge your support and aid to the men that are drafted.

The spending of two hundred million dollars in a community enterprise is entitled to the protection of the best brains and business ethics that the Southland affords.

I can not think of one may who has the right to refuse.

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WHT
7

THE COLORADO RIVER WATER DEVELOPMENT

As it affects Riverside County; Past Present and Future

(Address made by W. P. Whitsett, Chairman of the Board of the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California before the meeting of the Present Day Club on Monday evening, October 28th, in Pilgrim Hall, Riverside)

Mr. Chairman, and Friends:

It is always a privilege to address a body of representative, progressive, civic-minded, forward-looking citizens in any community. The name of your organization appeals to me strongly. A Present Day Club, active and alive to the problems immediately before us, would be the solution to many of our difficulties. Too many are prone to look backwards and, in dreaming of a past that is forever gone, miss the vivid opportunities of this swift moving drama in which we now live. The future of ourselves and our posterity depends on our actions in this very Present Day. In this connection, may I pay my personal tribute to Frank Miller, whose memory you are honoring tonight. He so lived with courage and vision each day that no words can measure the void he has left in the hearts and lives of those who knew him. Foremost citizen and builder of this community, he was also a world citizen in the truest sense of the word. His efforts toward world peace and international understanding have written his name deep into the pages of History; and his famous Mission Inn and that Cross on Mount Rubideau stand as beacon lights to guide storm-tossed travelers into this haven of restful beauty and peace which is your home. Frank Miller's works proclaim him to have been a man of unusual vision. His intense interest and approval of the Colorado River Water Development from its inception was an unfailing source of encouragement to those who led the fight. He saw the picture in its broadest ramifications. A man who accepted no limitations for the future of Southern California, he knew that no one ever achieved

great things who went at them in a petty way. Here in the city of his heart, we shall ever feel the inspiration of his far-sighted leadership.

Another of your great and constructive citizens was a tremendous force in the inauguration of the Boulder Dam project. As I sat listening to the eloquent addresses made at the dedication of Boulder Dam a few weeks ago, I thought of Sam Evans. As I heard that mighty work proclaimed to be the world's greatest conservation project; the supreme engineering achievement of history and the vital factor in the future development of the entire Southwest, I thought of the time and effort Sam Evans had so unstintingly devoted to that cause without counting the personal cost to himself. Following in the footsteps of such men, and inheriting the benefits of their work, it becomes our duty to "Carry On" with the same clear vision of the greatest ultimate good undimed by personal prejudice and aloof from personal gain.

In this spirit, let us approach the subject which has been assigned me for discussion, - The Colorado River Water Development and its effects on Riverside County; past present and future.

We must realize, first of all that the interests of all Southern California are so welded together that we will henceforth move more or less as a unit, whether we will or not. Before the world, Southern California is just ONE PLACE. From San Diego to Santa Barbara, and from Palm Springs to Santa Monica, our varied and numerous pleasure resorts and busy cities are woven together by a network of highways traversing our fertile valleys so that we are socially and economically one community.

The allurements that were here when you and I came to Southern California have been greatly augmented. To the natural attractions of climate and scenic beauty have been added the development

of our great agricultural possibilities, the scientific development of our mineral and oil deposits with the resultant increase in population to build the magnificient homes and up-to-date cities that are our pride to-day. Without a doubt, the next decade will witness the greatest migration in the history of our Nation. The unfortunate shift in the wheel of fortune for millions of American families in the last few years, with the breaking up of homes and business ties that inevitably follow will cause those people who have a nest-egg left to seek new homes in new places where they may literally "start all over again."

Where will they go? A dozen basic reasons point to Southern California. Two things are necessary to get people into any community. First, have something real to offer them. Second, you must have an effective means of telling the world what you have.

The fame of Southern California with its friendly climate and fertile soil is known to every man, woman and child in America. The golden fruits that tempt the appetite from every corner fruitstand and fill most of the cans on the grocers' shelves over the entire country, proclaim a land of warmth and sunshine while three-fourths of the country shivers amid ice and snow or breathes the stale air of artificially heated rooms. At every theatre in America, and in thousands abroad, rapt audiences sit for hours each day watching intently the motion pictures that go out from Hollywood. The outdoor scenes invariably depict avenues of palms, flower bordered walks, stretches of foamy waves lapping on sunny beaches, mountain streams tumbling over rugged rocks or the weird, mysterious desert stretching out to challenge man's endeavor. Nowhere else in the world can all these varied scenes be found in such close proximity inviting the potential citizen

to choose from ocean, desert, mountain or valley the one which pleases the mood of the day.

I believe from recent contacts made while traveling through the East, North, and South of this great country, that people are more California minded than ever before. The awful droughts that have laid waste thousands of acres of the middle west have also made the people more water-minded than ever before. A large percentage of our people are looking for "green pastures," and in the minds of thoughtful people, there are no pastures quite so green as those made possible here in Southern California by the building of the Boulder Canyon Dam, the Colorado River Aqueduct, and the All-American Canal. These are the wonder construction jobs of the ages now being crowded to completion. They are the answer modern science and skill is making to the age-old enemies of drought and flood.

The water stored behind Boulder Dam forms the largest artificial lake in the world, protecting the lower valleys from flood. The All-American Canal will take much of the Colorado River water to protect the winter gardens of America in the great Imperial Valley from drought and the Colorado River Aqueduct being constructed by the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California at a cost of $220,000,000 will secure the investments that have already been made on the coastal plains and insure the development of wealth and population that will surely follow the doubling of our present supply of water and hydro-electric power.

Do you question that these greatly increased facilities will be the means of a corresponding increase in population and wealth? I ask you to consider the improved transcontinental highways over which thousands of visitors come annually in their fast running, inexpensive

new automobiles; the air-conditioned, stream-lined trains that make an easy three-day journey from coast to coast; the airplane that takes us overnight from the Atlantic to the Pacific; the recreational voyages through the Panama Canal -- all these new means of transportation to bring people who are being given more leisure and are looking for the place they can find the most enjoyment at least expense. Southern California is the answer to their dreams. The one bugaboo which has hitherto frightened people who come from lands of abundant rainfall-- the possibility of a water shortage has been put out of the picture once and for all with the availability of Colorado River water.

Industrialists pretty generally admit, that on account of our mild, invigorating climate, our cheap, abundant garden, orchard, dairy and poultry food supplies, our cheap hydro-electricity, that most things can be fabricated more cheaply here than elsewhere in the United States. Our markets of the future tie in with South America and the Far East, and the previously mentioned transportation systems make easily accessible the markets of the Eastern United States.

Theodore Roosevelt said over twenty-five years ago "When the Atlantic era unfolded, the Mediterranian era started to decay and as the resources of the Atlantic seaboard are being exhausted we enter the Pacific Era which will be the greatest of the three." Increasing numbers of people of experience and means will be attracted here by the wealth-creating possibilities of abundant water and cheap power which have made possible our growth and development in the past.

The Pacific Era is here. Southern California as a whole beckons to a changing world which looks with unprecedented eagerness to new opportunities. You citizens of Riverside County will share with your neighbors the benefits that are ours in common. But naturally

you are more especially interested in the direct benefits which your own locality is reaping from the Colorado River Water Development. So I have brought to you some actual figures on the amounts that the Metropolitan Water District has already spent in Riverside County and the amounts that will be expended before the Aqueduct is completed. In these days of unemployment, any community is favored which has a ready market for its products and a business being carried on in its midst which will add to the spending power of its people.

The amount spent by the District in Riverside County up to October first on supplies, service and utilities totals $2,733,210.00. The estimated amount to be spent before completion of the aqueduct is $8,010,000. In camps in Riverside County to date $15,532,000; to December, 1938, $31,959,000. I have the itemized figures on the various expenditures which I submit for your more complete information, as follows:

FUNDS OF THE METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT
EXPENDED IN RIVERSIDE COUNTY

	October 1, 1935	December, 1938 (Estimated)
District purchases of materials and food supplies; rent and county taxes; personal, professional, and industrial services	$ 534,210	$1,070,000
Expenditures include:		
Taxes, rentals, easements, etc.	$ 62,745	
Gasoline, oils, auto supplies and services	119,648	
Meals and lodgings	77,739	
Personal and professional services, drugs and laboratory services	42,337	
Mess supplies	70,864	
Construction supplies and services	117,691	
Utility service (water, gas, etc.) except construction power	43,186	

	October 1, 1935	December, 1938 (Estimated)
Expenditures by aqueduct contractors for above listed purposes	867,000	2,575,000
Purchase of cement from the Riverside Portland Cement Company	355,000	2,600,000
Purchase of electric energy from Southern Sierras Power Company	154,000	325,000
For construction of permanent surfaced highways, approximately 100 miles in Riverside County	403,000	440,000
For purchase of rights of way, power lines, telephone lines, water lines, roads, and aqueduct in Riverside County	420,000	1,000,000
Total	$2,733,210	$8,010,000
Expenditures for labor on aqueduct works with camps located in Riverside County	$15,532,000	$31,959,000

Of the total number of aqueduct employees working in Riverside County a large percentage are residing in Riverside County with their families, and are spending all or most of their income in Riverside County. It is safe to say that at least $7,000,000 of aqueduct pay roll money has found its way into the channels of trade in Riverside County thus far.

So much for the indirect and direct benefits which citizens of Riverside County will receive from the development of Colorado River Water as it affects you because of your location.

I have been asked to give you in terms comprehensive to the layman, the cost of water in the event your community would participate in the permanent benefits accruing to members of the Metropolitan District. At my request, our Hydrograph Engineer, Mr. C. C. Elder, has submitted two water cost assumption set-ups. First on the delivery of 500,000 acre feet per year or half the aqueduct capacity; second, on the

delivery of one million acre feet, or full aqueduct capacity. Now in order to grasp the meanings of these figures as they apply to the member-cities of the District, let us assume that the assessed valuation of Riverside would entitle the city to about 1% of the Aqueduct's capacity or say 10,000 acre feet of water per year. With the Aqueduct then operating during early years at 1/2 its capacity or 500,000 acre feet per year, and Riverside using 1/2 of its allotted water right in the Aqueduct or 5,000 acre feet to augment or supplement the City's domestic supply, the full cost including bond interest and amortization, power for pumping from Boulder dam and all operation and maintenance costs would not exceed $41.00 per acre foot or 9.4¢ per 100 cu. ft., which is less than the City's present retail water rate of 10¢ per 100 cu. ft. This cost of Aqueduct water when operating at only half capacity is approximately 1/2 of the average rate of the 100 largest cities of the United States, less than 1/2 of the present San Diego domestic rate, and only about 1/3 of the water rate in such cities as San Francisco and Oakland.

There would be no tax rate in addition to the mentioned cost, but the City can take this average rate and divide the cost of being a member of the District any way it likes between taxes and water rates, or different rates for different water uses.

Then with the Aqueduct discharge increased, the average rate at full capacity becomes only 2/3 of the rate at half capacity operation, and this gradually diminishes as bonds are retired. This means that the second half of the City's quota or allotment would cost not over $16.00 per afre foot or less than 4¢ per 100 cu. ft. and these proportions can be varied as suits local conditions. Thus if a local rate of $50.00 is fixed for the first half of the City's quota, the second half can be sold at only $7.00 per acre foot in order to meet the entire Aqueduct cost without a tax levy. In this way, the relative water rates become entirely a local matter; and it is strictly a local matter whether you ever apply for admission to the District, or not. I simply want to say that, in my opinion, you will be most fortunate indeed if you apply for membership in the Metropolitan Water District and are admitted; for we are bringing in, even at full aqueduct capacity, insufficient water to protect the present growth and investments, and to continue the development of the Southern Counties. In answer to the question so often asked,"What will happen if we do not get the water?" I will quote the reply given by that grand old water Warrior, William Mulholland, when asked this same question

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MEN:--

400 Section feet of water has made it possible for almost One and One-half Million people to make their homes in Los Angeles. Their assessed wealth is near two billion dollars.

The Colorado River Acqueduct, when built, will have a capacity of 1500 Section feet of water--sufficient for the domestic needs of 7,500,-000 more people. They will have and create $10,000.000.00 worth of assessable wealth in much shorter time than any of us anticipated on account of the excelleration of these three factors: Anticipation, adding to and Speeding up of Travel, and the ever increasing desire of humanity to find its place in the Sun.

The laws of Economics is pretty generally applicable to the different organizims of industries and communities. It is a matter of Constructive thinking. MEN--MOTORS--MATERIAL--MARKETS AND MONEY. If these are properly cyncronized, profitable industry can be greatly increased here. Resulting in a happy contented citizenship living in comfort amid ideal surroundings under the warm blue sky of California.

Never before in the history of the world has there been such an opportunity to build so great an empire in the same length of time, where so many determining factors can be known.

This opportunity should be a challenge to each of us. It should be met unselfishly with a desire to serve.

If our splendid Government is to endure--If our civilization is to carry on--If our loved ones are to enjoy the fruits of our labors in the years to come, then the men of thought and action today will have to give more attention to the cheapening of the necessities of life, which enter into our standards of living, for all.

CheapElectricity for large industrial consumers will be one of the main corner stones in this empire of the future. If we were to broaden our vision and properly appraise the indirect beneficial results to all, ways could be found anticipating the benefits of the Boulder Canyon Dam, so we could take full advantage now of the additional water and cheap power for industrial purposes. Creating additional wealth to help defray the expense of this great undertaking, and putting the unemployed to work.

Our communities are interlaced one with the other, now only by paved highways, Steel rails, Telephone and telegraph connections, but by the intemacies of innumeral commercial activities, and it should be our united effort to strenghten this interlacing by concrete conduits, iron & steel rivited mains through which will flow the life giving water of the Colorado River at the earliest practicable moment, to the end that all may share in the general prosperity and wealth to be created on this Coastal Plain of Southern California by our life blood of Industry--WATER.

"You have just been served with Colorado River Water. This water comes to us from the City of Yuma, Arizona - taken directly from their City water supply, which is drawn from the Colorado River. The people of Yuma and Imperial Valley, and all of the District along the River, have been using Colorado River water exclusively ever since those communities existed.

Today we are gathered in this room officially to launch the campaign for the Colorado River Aqueduct bond issue to be voted on September 29th.

Let us now raise our glasses - filled with Colorado River Water - and drink a toast to the success of the Aqueduct bond issue on September 29th."

6.

12:45 - Mr. Lacy arises and raps for silence regardless of the state of the eating process. He speaks as follows:

"This event in which we are gathered here to participate will prove - I believe - to be one of great historic importance. We are gathered here - as a group of citizens to officially launch the campaign that will insure the adoption of the Colorado River Aqueduct bond issue on September 29th. I believe that every man and woman in this room thoroughly appreciates the vital importance of building the Aqueduct and securing Colorado River water for all of the cities in the Metropolitan Water District.

The building of the Aqueduct will be the greatest engineering project ever set underway in the History of the West.

Our time today is extremely limited. In a few minutes we must open our program that is to be broadcast over Radio K H J.

This program is to be conducted by Mr. Joseph Scott, who will act as toastmaster and timekeeper of the group of distinguished persons who have been scheduled to address you.

Let me now introduce Mr. Harold William Roberts, who is assisting us today with his famous band. We will now hear from Mr. Roberts and his band."

7.

12:57 - Mr. Roberts' band begins playing and plays up to one minute after one o'clock.

8.

1:01 - Mr. Lacy, in front of microphone, announces as follows:

"Let me now present Mr. Joseph Scott, who will take charge of the Meeting."

9.

Mr. Scott takes charge and proceeds with the program.

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It is indeed fortunate that Southern California is preparing to launch such a great construction job at this particular time. There can be no doubt but that the building of the Aqueduct will act as a great stimulant to business conditions and will go a long way in helping to relieve the unemployment condition.

It is most gratifying to know that this great and vitally important bond issue is being whole-heartedly supported by almost every large group of people in Los Angeles and the other cities of the District. Today we have gathered at this luncheon representatives of business and labor. We have the leaders of our great social welfare organizations. We have the leaders of our great religuous and educational institutions. We have the representatives of our gas and electric utilities. We have the representatives also of our municipal water and electric systems. All of these persons and all of these groups - regardless of what differences of opinion they may have on other questions - have come together here today and joined hands to help their city and Southern California in our big task of bringing in Colorado River Water. We cannot too highly commend and praise these leaders for their generous co-operation.

I wish that it were possible to introduce each and every one of them to you today. But that is impossible. We have here, in addition to the leaders I have mentioned, our representatives in Congress, and the mayors of the various cities in our District. Each and every one of you are doing a great and noble work.

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Remarks of W.P.Whitsett, Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, at luncheon at the Biltmore Hotel on occasion of the District's being granted $40,000,000. by the Reconstruction Finance Corporation.

Another milestone in the history of Southern California has been passed. Last week the Administration in Washington, after most searching investigation, granted the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California a loan of $40,000,000.

In drafting the legislation and in its application to the District's project, the members of both great parties were helpful. Dr Wilbur and his organization and the other members of the Administration at all times manifested a sincere understanding and cooperation.

Among our own people I particularly feel I should express our appreciation to the Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce through its President, Mr Schleicher, to the Los Angeles Realty Board through its President Mr Mc Carthy and to the Down Town Business Men's Association through Mr E.J.Fleming.

The granting of this loan means assurance that Southern California will have the water it needs. It will mean security against the desert and a foundation on which population, industry and commerce can safely live. Probably more than these, it will mean employment to thousands of our employable people now out of work. Surely those of us who are at this meeting have much to be thankful for to the National Administration that has made these things possible.

Let me tell a story on our speaker today which illustrates how our Government works. Two years ago, after many years of study, investigation and controversy, hearings were being held before the Appropriations Committee considering the question of advancing funds for the starting of work on Hoover Dam. The opposition then, as now, were advocating delay for further consideration. I was present and we were pleading the necessity for water, employment and power for the Pacific Southwest. The outcome looked discouraging. At that time our distinguished guest here today, the Secretary of the Interior, appeared on the scene and the Chairman of the Appropriations Committee turned to him with this inquiry: "Mr Secretary, if this appropriation is approved and money granted for this project, how soon can it be started?" "In five minutes", was the emphatic reply of Dr Ray Lyman Wilbur, and the victory was won.

Southern California, the Pacific Southwest and the Nation can never repay the debt of gratitude we owe to this man of thought and action for making possible the starting of this gr-eat project, the building of Hoover Dam. It gave us new hope, courage and determination to go ahead in the building of this empire between the desert and the sea, under the warm, blue skies of California, where so many want to live. Great migrations have always followed great crises which have broken up business associations, up-rooted gome ties and driven the people to look about for greener fields in which to start again.

The eyes of the world are today riveted, as never before, on the green fields that lie in Southern California. Water is the controlling factor and an adequate supply is being made available by the building of Hoover Dam.

I am asked daily. "When will work on the Metropolitan Water District Aqueduct start?" Following the words of our illustrious guest, I desire to reply, "In five minutes after the first installment of the $40,000,000. is received, the Aqueduct, a twin project of the Hoover Dam, will be under way."

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ADDRESS BY W. P. WHITSETT

(Commissioner of Water & Power of Los Angeles, and director of the Metropolitan Water District, at the annual meeting of the Van Nuys Realty Board)

We are facing the tremendous task of bring water from the Colorado River to Los Angeles, but almost as important an undertaking is the bringing of cheap industrial power to furnish employment for the hundreds of thousandsof persons who are coming to California in expectation of the prosperity era that will follow the opening of the Colorado River Aqueduct.

Expectation is greater at the start than realization. There will be a far greater influx of people into Southern California during the time that the Boulder Canyon Dam and the Colorado River Aqueduct are under construction than immediately after their completion.

No other class of business men will reap a greater profit from this influx than the realtors of Southern California.

During the next few years we will not be faced with the problem of how to get new people to Southern California, but rather how we should take care of them--what we shall put them to work at after they get here.

Water and cheap industrial power are the keys with which we can unlock new flood-gates of population and industry. Southern California has nearly 50% of the entire population of the State, but the same territory has only about 1% of the tributary water of the State (exclusive of the Colorado River.)

In the face of this new incoming population, I wish to sound again a warning that I have given before.

San Fernando Valley is nature balanced, but our carefully adjusted educational, manufacturing and living conditions can be irreparably injured by the activities of exploiting lot subdividers--by the voting of needless special assessment taxes, and by the raising of land prices to a point where it becomes impossible to produce crops profitably--

even by the owners of intensive acre gardens.

These are pitfalls, which we have plainly seen and recognized, but which have all too frequently been disregarded during the last few years.

Let us build a community that must be prosperous because we make it economically sound--a garden city of intensively cultivated small farms.

Hundreds of thousands of persons who have always had a secret ambition to come to California will take the construction of the Boulder Dam as an excuse to come now. Are we going to make them happy, contented citizens, drawing their friends to our garden valley? Or are we going to send them away like we have sent thousands of other Easterners away from Southern California--sore, disgruntled because they were stuck with a useless lot, sold to them under high pressure, at two or three times what it was worth, or would bring for years to come.

Shall we not place these new residents on small farms where they can raise their own poultry, vegetables, rabbits, fruit, berries and other food products, thus conserving the accumulated resources which they have brought with them? Or are we going to cramp them down on a 40 or 50 foot lot, where they will stay until they have consumed their resources and then be compelled to return from whence they came if no permanent employment can be secured?

The Colorado River Aqueduct will have a capacity of 1500 second feet of water as compared to the 400 second feet capacity of the Los Angeles Aqueduct. The Colorado River aqueduct will supply the domestic needs of 7,500.000 people.

Four routes are under consideration for the Colorado River Aqueduct. I have gathered a few brief figures about each of the Routes under consideration and present them to you as follows:

1. The Blythe Route.
   - Distance ---------- 259 miles
   - Approximate lift ----1630 feet.
   - Longest Tunnel ------ 27 miles.
   - Next longest tunnel - 5 miles.

2. Bridge Conyon Gravity Route.
   - Distance---------- 372 miles.
   - Longest Tunnel 80 miles
   - Next longest tunnel-- 72 miles

3. Black Canyon Route.
   Distance---------- 343 miles
   Approximate lift ----- 1730 feet.
   Longest Tunnel ------- 20 miles.
   Next longest tunnel--- 15 miles.

4. Picacho Route.
   Distance---------- 243 miles.
   Lift ---------- 1580 feet.
   Longest tunnel -------- 27 miles.
   Next longest tunnel --- 6 miles.

The cost of construction on the most favorable route is estimated at about $150,000.000.00. The Colorado River Aqueduct will be by far the largest aqueduct in the world. The per capita cost of constructing the Colorado River Aqueduct will be about $100.00 per capita based on our present population. On the other hand, the Los Angeles Aqueduct cost approximately $150.00 per capita based on the population of Los Angeles at the time that it was built.

Much has been said about the cost of electrical energy for pumping the water over the Picacho lift or over the Blythe Route, and I would like to give some carefully compiled figures that will help to clear up this point.

With the cost of power at Boulder Dam as 3 mills and with the additional cost of transmission lines together with interest, carrying charges and amortization, it will cost approximately ~~Less~~ than 4 cents per 100 cubic feet for all pumping necessary on either the Pichacho or Blythe Route.

The per capita consumption of water in Los Angeles is 125 gallons per day, or less than 17 cubic feet per person. In other words it will cost about three mills per day per person to lift the water from Boulder Dam to Los Angeles.

In closing let me say to those who are contemplating the purchase of land with the hope or belief that it will be benefitted by the construction of the Boulder Dam or the Colorado River Aqueduct, there will be no water for irrigation use made available from the Colorado River Aqueduct. It will be used entirely as a domestic water supply for the cities of the Coastal Plain of Southern California.

All public lands available for future irrigation along the lower Colorado River have been withdrawn from entry and when opened for settlement, will be offered to the United States War veterans first.

The magnitude of these projects and the appeal of new irrigation for wild land could easily be made the foundation for another speculative spree, such as was recently experienced in Florida, and the like of which occurred here in California in 1888.

California of today is conservative and Boom Proof. We showed this by the automatic slowing down of our exciting land expansions following the War, and thanks to the Realtor Organizations, we have a State Commissioner with both power and gumption.

Warnings have been issued by the State of California, and only the very gullible who disregard these warnings will suffer from the fake promotions that attempt to feed upon the real Boulder Dam developments.

Our communities are interlaced, one with the other by paved highways, railroads, telephone and telegraph lines, and innumerable intimacies of commercial activity.

It should be the aim and desire of each of us to strengthen this interlacing by concrete conduits, iron and rivited steel mains through which should flow the water from the Colorado River at the earliest practicable moment, to the end that all might shre in the general prosperity and wealth to be created on the Coastal Plain of Southern California by the very life blood of our growth and industry here--WATER.

WHT
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MEN*-

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WATER FAMINE PHANTOM

Los Angeles: What Will You?

An adequate water supply and economic progress are synonomous, inseparable terms.

An inadequate water supply and stagnation and desolation are also inseparable companions.

Six years ago the City of Omaha was partially out of water for a few days.

A panic of fear arose.

The City of San Francisco burned to the ground when the earthquake temporarily disabled her water system.

We of Los Angeles are an exotic people coming here mostly from humid climates.

In this semi-arid land the hot breath of the Desert seeks to wither vegetation and the salts of the Ocean seek to corrode it.

It is an entente alliance which real men must copy with.

Two ominous events -- one in Central California and the other nearby us, have transpired that will make us wholly alert to the subject of our local water problems.

It should bring forward the best men with the best brains of the city, willing and ready to serve as they would if their own and their neighbors' homes were burning down.

Due to the constant lowering of the underground waters in Southern California, salt water has already seeped into the vacuum and rendered unfit for use wells back from the ocean at El Segundo.

The original artesian wells bored in the vicinity of Long Beach

a generation ago and upon which that city depends for water, originally spurted 60 feet above the surface of the ground, while today they are being pumped from a water table 50 feet below the surface. This is a drop of 110 feet.

Into this constantly-increasing vacuum between sea-level and the surface of the fresh water level of the coastal plane, the corroding salts of the ocean are inexorably seeping and creeping.

Necessity impels Pasadena to divert from the San Gabriel River 30,000 acre feet of flood storm water. The San Gabriel River is the source of the supply for the water basins behind Long Beach and other lower towns, hence legal controversies that will prove bad advertising have arisen.

Near San Francisco a broader movement of the Ocean salts has occurred.

On the Northern arm of that harbor upon the Carquinez Straits and the broad Suisun Bay, many towns and a number of large industries were located. The waters were kept fresh by the flow of the Sacramento and San Joaquin Rivers.

The memory of man can not recall when those waters were not heretofore fresh.

Population and agricultural development of the upper valleys diverted the flows of those rivers so that in 1924 the salt water from San Francisco had penetrated 26 miles further inland than ever known before.

No great additional development has taken place in that region since.

Established industries existed by means of tank barges bringing

down from the upper river two and one-half million gallons of water daily, at a cost of 50 cents or more a thousand gallons. Water rates were multiplied.

Several small cities suffered from the conditions by stagnation of industrial progress and a raise of domestic water from ten cents to $1.00 per hundred cubic feet.

Thousands of acres of the richest agricultural land in the world; viz: the delta islands of those rivers, began to deteriorate from the inflow of salt.

History presents to the eye of the archaeologist spectacular pictures of destruction from drouth too numerous to mention here.

We all remember the story of Bible times when one warrior in the Mesopotania area diverted the water from the canals and river channels and marched in the dry river beds under the walls of the city in his work of destruction.

We are not suffering a crisis in Southern California.

But -- a crisis surely impends.

I am impelled to these remarks in the spirit of the old family doctor to the patient with a surplus of energy and a lack of strength.

Picture the panic of fear that occurred in Omaha by a shut-off of the water for a few whole days!

Imagine that condition in any city of major size! The roads from the city would be jammed with fleeing inhabitants and the fires of destruction would consume what remained.

Picture a city in an arid land where highways could be choked with fleeing inhabitants without water. Picture the mountain passes and the desert highways blocked by fear-driven people frantic for water.

Create a picture of any important ocean-front city waking up to find that Salt had seeped back into the vacuum caused by the lowering of the underground fresh-water tables.

Happily Los Angeles has no such immediate possibility.

Happily we have enough water with moderate expansion, but without annexation or unusual progress, for a ten-year period.

But this foundation is altogether too slim, when our use of water increases to 84 acre feet per acre per year in the most congested center of the city, where formerly 1-1/2 acre feet was sufficient.

We will make use of every water source available. There can now be no sense of human security or financial safety without the increased supply from the Colorado water-shed and a supply for 25 years ahead, because the phantom of insufficient water is already casting its shadow on future transactions.

I would hesitate to emphasize these fundamental facts were the crisis not altogether too near and the solution of it happily provided for in the enactment of the Boulder Dam Legislation.

It is not a question that can longer be discussed in chambers. The situation is known throughout the financial and industrial world.

A recent article in the Saturday Evening Post entitled "Thirsty Cities" stated very plainly to all who could read that the water plane under the whole five counties of Southern California was rapidly falling, which meant that the 31 of our southland cities are depleting their underground water reserves from which comes the largest part of their local supply.

And next to the air we breathe, is the water we drink.

While the facts are by no means a desirable type of publicity, yet we are comforted in the fact that the legislative solution of the problem has been provided. All that is required is the forward, confident, vigorous action for which Southern California has ever been noted.

In addition to the passage of the Boulder Dam legislation providing funds by the Federal Government, we have all necessary legislation in the form of the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California. In this district are already united eleven of our Southern cities, representing 65 per cent of the population and wealth of the Southland.

Surveys and studies have been made and revised.

A board of consulting engineers has been selected by the Metropolitan Water District, consisting of three of the most eminent ment in the engineering profession, based on their experience in great National and world-wide projects.

This board of consulting engineers is comprised entirely of men outside of the State, and their duty will be to select the route that is physically practical upon the basis of the soundest economic principle.

The personnel is as follows:

I master all fear that the Colorado River project can be much delayed or injured by the carping criticism of publicity-seeking

engineers or factions working for self-aggrandizement.

The representatives of eleven cities, bound together in the Metropolitan Water District, to make sound our common inheritance have provided this eminent disinterested umpire Commission of distinguished National engineers and has empowered them with the responsibility of the choice of the route of the aquaduct which will convey the waters from the dam in the desert to the coastal regions.

When the route is decided in such a manner the matter will be laid before the people of the district in a bond election to carry it thru. Wherefore, it is plain that the issues of the pumping lifts, gravity flows and tunnels should be addressed thru normal channels, to the commission of outside engineers who are charged with the responsibility thereof.

Neither singly or collectively could the members of the Board of the Metropolitan Water District be responsible for such a technical decision, and the plan adopted is a sure basis for the hope that the waters of the Colorado River will at an early date flow into the water mains of these cities of Southern California, free from anguish by delay or loss by any incompetence of opinion.

Obviously, any attempt to becloud the people's mind by perverted controversies of these intricate engineering questions of route would become perfectly transparent upon casual examination, of the individual or corporate interest so selfish that it could not subscribe to these broad plans of an outside disinterested commission of nationally renowned engineers.

Speaking for the protection of my associated upon the Board of this Metropolitan Water District, I take the liberty now and believe it the duty of my office, to discuss each occasion plainly and

candidly with all the folks whose homes and happiness are dependent upon this work.

In ~~this~~ this question of route selection, a gravity flow canal would mean scores of millions of dollars expended in supplies for pipes, cement and other construction material.

Contrariwise, a route involving pumping and lifting would mean millions of dollars' expenditures to private manufacturers of dynamos and other pumping equipment.

Real estate will fluctuate in localities based upon route decisions.

Past history is the basis of my faith that all these commercial contentions will be hushed in the traditional spirit of old Los Angeles. With water, every citizen, every commercial factor must be on tiptoes to thwart and silence private schemes.

Los Angeles has indeed been fortunate in having her public project moneys spent wisely and desired results achieved. In the histories of American communities this has not always been the case. We do not have to go far afield to see the spectacle of a great metropolis which has voted money for outside water supply twice, and the delivery of which, thru engineering, financial and political difficulties, has not yet been made.

This is the fulcrum of the whole Colorado River project, for the Metropolitan Water District and the Municipal units comprised thereof.

What WILL We?

There are now seven vacancies existing on the Metropolitan Water Board which are subject to appointment by the Mayor of Los Angeles.

Will our big, outstanding men of business and financial

experience accept the call to this greatest public service without pay and with some possible abuse, perhaps, from malignant, selfish interests?

Will the executive boards of our largest enterprises allow Mayor Porter to draft their biggest men, whose names will insure a repetition of the first aqueduct success and anchor the faith of the people of this area to their hopes and prayers for a continued progress?

Mayor Porter may be depended upon to make the right choice, but is he to be restricted and hampered by the latter-day idea that big men are too busy to do anything for the public service?

These seven new appointments will constitute the balance of control in the board.

My fellow directors on the board of this momentous undertaking have the right to expect that Los Angeles, of her biggest and most experienced men, will give her best and not leave the Mayor a mere Hobson's choice of self-seekers and aggrandizement planners.

I am pained to hear and discouraged to know of some who declined when asked.

I wish that the Mayor would just select the seven men who ought to help safeguard and insure this foundation of community progress, issue the list, and then everybody take the 'phone and pledge your support and aid to the men that are drafted.

The spending of two hundred million dollars in a community enterprise is entitled to the protection of the best brains and business ethics that the Southland affords.

I can not think of one may who has the right to refuse.

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STATEMENT OF W. P. WHITSETT, CHAIRMAN, BOARD OF DIRECTORS, THE METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA MADE BEFORE THE FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE OF THE UNITED STATES SENATE.

Gentlemen:

My distinguished associates, in opposing the ratification of the proposed Mexican Treaty, are presenting to you the legal rights upon which our case is firmly based. They are pointing out the vast economic losses to the United States as a whole which will result from robbing the southwestern states of water required for their ~~defense activities and~~ post-war development in order that Mexico may grow more cotton.

The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, of which I have had the honor of being Chairman since its organization in 1928, ~~will~~ is present time more of these facts through our general counsel and engineering staff. In the brief time allotted me, I would like to point out one fundamental American principle involved in this treaty which might easily escape the notice of those whose time allows only a casual examination of this vital issue.

Because I know you are as much interested in the human factors involved as in the technical facts, let me sketch briefly the part played by the Metropolitan Water District, which comprises fourteen cities of Southern California, which, with adjacent areas, have three and one-half million inhabitants. When Boulder Dam was a blueprint in Washington, the Government refused to appropriate the $125,000,000 for its construction until assured that the cost of the dam, plus interest on the Government money advanced would be repaid through the sale of power and water made available by the dam. The Government demanded that this repayment be guaranteed by firm contracts. The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California joined with other public and private agencies in California and entered into such contracts with the Government and these communities thus bound themselves to pay for sufficient Boulder Dam hydro-power to satisfy the Government demands.

The Metropolitan Water District, as a matter of fact, bound itself by firm contracts to pay for about 36 per cent of the firm power available at Boulder Dam - and the District agreed to pay for this large amount of hydro-power regardless of whether or not it actually needed or used the power. Thus the construction of Boulder Dam was brought about and made possible.

With construction of the dam thus assured, the people of the California cities which comprise the Metropolitan Water District went forward with plans to finance and build the Colorado River Aqueduct. In September, 1931, the people of these District cities authorized by a majority of five to one a bond issue of $220,000,000 to finance the initial cost of the giant aqueduct system. These bonds are a first mortgage on all of the real assets of the people in the District cities. This heavy obligation was assumed in order to finance the building of an aqueduct of 400 miles in length - an aqueduct which now is carrying water across mountains and desert wastes to supply the ever increasing needs of agriculture, industry and homes and military installations on the semi-arid coastal plain of Southern California.

The job of building the Colorado River Aqueduct included ~~the~~ blasting of 91 miles of 18-foot diameter tunnels through mountain barriers and the building of five huge pumping plants required to raise the water a total of 1600 feet before it can flow by gravity into a terminal reservoir ready for distribution to the industries, defense establishments and homes situated within the territory of the Metropolitan Water District. To operate the aqueduct pumping plants the District requires electric power, and it was for this power that the District bound itself to pay for up to 36% of the total firm output from Boulder Dam. The District did not require any such large amount of power in its early days of operation, and still does not require any such quantity of power; but it nevertheless assured the building of Boulder Dam by contracting to pay for this power whether used or not. As a result of these contracts between the Metropolitan Water District and the Government, the District thus far has paid out more than $4,500,000 to the United States Government for Boulder Dam power which neither the District nor anyone else has ever used. This $4,500,000 has come out of the pockets of the taxpayers of the 14 cities constituting the District.

In meeting this heavy obligation our people have never faltered. We had made that kind of a contract with the United States in order to bring about the building of Boulder Dam. We had absolute confidence in the good faith of our Government to fulfill its end of the contracts, and we were willing to wait and to continue paying this high premium for insurance for our future protection. Our first reward has been the great satisfaction of having this ~~great~~ large surplus of electric power ready and waiting to serve and activate the giant war industries and military installations which became so

vitally essential in Southern California when the massacre at Pearl Harbor plunged this country into war. Our people have paid dearly for the guarantee we made to our Government in Washington to assure the repayment of the cost of Boulder Dam but we will never regret the price we are paying if our Government honestly fulfils its end of the contract to make available to our people the Colorado River water essential to our region in all the years ahead. I have spoken of the heavy obligation that has been assumed by the communities within our Metropolitan Water District to bring about the construction of Boulder Dam. Please allow me to speak for only a few moments regarding the financing of the Colorado River Aqueduct. To finance the initial construction of the aqueduct, as I have stated, our people voted in 1931 to assume the heavy financial obligation of bonds in the amount of $220,000,000. Approximately $180,000,000 of these bonds were sold to the Reconstruction Finance Corporation at an initial interest rate of 5 per cent, later slightly reduced to an average of about 4 per cent. These bonds have long since been sold by the R.F.C. on the public market at premiums which returned to the Government a net profit estimated to exceed $13,000,000. Thus, it can plainly be seen, the Colorado River aqueduct has not been benefited by one dollar of Federal aid, but on the contrary has contributed heavily to the financial benefit of our Government's treasury. Once more, permit me to state that our people do not regret their decision to assume the tremendous aqueduct bond obligation. It was essential that this obligation be assumed if the vitally strategic area on the south coastal plain of California is to go forward with an orderly and necessary program of development. Our people were ready and willing to take up the full burden of this obligation because they had utter faith in the sanctity and dependability of their Colorado River water contracts with the United States Government, contracts made pursuant to the terms and provisions of the Boulder Canyon Project Act which was adopted by Congress in 1928. Insofar as the members of the Board of Directors was concerned, let me say that not one of our nineteen members on the Board in those days ever questioned the validity of our water contracts with the Government. It never occurred to any one of us that the time would come when our Government would not keep faith with its own people in the complete fulfillment of its pledged word to make the water available as required. Realizing the imperative need of our region for the Colorado River water we enthusiastically advocated the approval of the aqueduct bond issue by our people, and they, in their turn, as I have

previously noted, did authorize this bond issue by the decisive majority of five to one. Incidentally, allow me to point out, that no member of the Board of Directors of the Metropolitan Water District has ever received one dollar of remuneration for his time and services on that Board. It has been a civic enterprise of the highest order in which we have been proud as citizens of the United States to participate. The construction of the Aqueduct was started in 1932, in the trough of the depression, when we were able to choose from the eminent engineers of the United States those best qualified to do this unprecedented job. And those engineers in turn were able to secure efficient assistants and provide jobs for 38,000 men, at the highest wages of that day, and under the best of working conditions.

The Aqueduct was completed in June, 1941 -- five months before Pearl Harbor. The citizens of the District are proud of this great engineering achievement -- not only because it provides life-giving water, which is the prime necessity for the future development of farms and homes for our successors and for returning veterans in some of the most fertile valleys on God's earth -- but because it has made possible the water and power for the gigantic Defense Plants which are producing planes and ships by the tens of thousands, and other implements of war -- the prime necessity of the United States and our Allied Nations today. I am quite sure, Mr. Chairman, that you and the other distinguished members of your committee will agree when I remind you that the end of this war will not eliminate the continuing need for naval and military installations and for the continuing operation of heavy industrial plants on the Pacific Coast. We have learned, belatedly, that the oceans no longer are effective barriers against aggressor nations. And, until some world organization far more tangible than any now in operation, has been tried and proven, the United States in common prudence must maintain an adequate and ever ready Pacific Coast defense. Southern California is today and must surely remain a strategic area in this general zone of our Pacific defense. The Colorado River is the "last water hole" for Southern California. The proposed Treaty, in giving to landowners in Mexico Colorado River water which is vitally essential in the maintenance of an adequate defense in this area, I respectfully submit, reveals a shocking lack of foresight in a Nation which ought to have learned some bitter lessons since December 7, 1941. President Roosevelt, in his inaugural address said - "We may make mistakes. But they must never be mistakes which result from faintness of heart or abandonment of moral principle."

It would be easy to make the mistake of ratifying this treaty, unless it were thoroughly studied against a background of all the facts. Such an examination brings out the moral issue to which I would direct your attention.

The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California and other agencies here represented had no "faintness of heart" when they took upon themselves the building of Boulder Dam, the Colorado River Aqueduct, the All-American Canal, and mortgaged their homes and farms and their children's homes to pay for them. I ask you if it would not be an abandonment of moral principle to break faith with such courageous citizenship?

The United States today is writing, with the blood of your sons and grandsons, across the broad expanse of the Pacific and on the battlefields of Europe, its belief in the principles of freedom, equality, and justice, ~~and humanity~~, for which American patriots of former generations sacrificed their lives and fortunes.

Not only for ourselves do we defend these principles, but for all mankind, and we hold the dream of a world order in which such ideals may ultimately be secured.

In these days of planning for world peace, does it not become our first responsibility to see that Justice is administered at home, among the states of our own union? For any sort of lasting peace must be founded on honor and integrity.

The INJUSTICE of giving to Mexico more water than that to which she is entitled, — in open breach of contract by the United States with its own citizens after they have in good faith conserved and planned the use of such waters for the benefit of our nation as a whole — is nothing short of an abandonment of moral principle.

Injustice more than any single evil, eats at the heart of mankind, and is the hardest to forget or forgive.

The United States is striving to build good will and friendship throughout the world. But real friendship is not made by the giving of material things. It is made by being the kind of person whom a neighbor can absolutely trust and depend upon. This applies to both individuals and nations.

Good will can never be established by the expediency of injustice — even if the injustice is practiced "within the family."

Foreign relations, I humbly submit, cannot be any better than the domestic policies on which they are founded. And no treaty is any better than the honor of the countries signing it.

Our neighbor statesmen in Mexico cannot honestly respect a treaty made by our government in violation of its contract with the Southwestern States any more than one of you gentlemen would respect a trade I made with you by robbing my own son to do it.

You recall it was Germany that called written agreements "scraps of paper." We see the results today. When any nation, ~~without due process of law,~~ makes "scraps of paper" out of its own contracts it has taken a long step on the road to chaos.

Such abandonment of principle ~~would be~~ is hard to justify in the United States today -- while our boys are dying to re-establish the principles of justice and humanity, essential to any civilized order.

For the crucial years ahead, when we shall be sacrificing ever more and more in the name of Democracy, Justice and Humanity, calling for the perfect unity and team-work of every state in the Union, we can ill afford to plant the seeds of animosity between the states of California and Texas. And we should so guard the principle of Justice in our domestic and foreign policies that when we gather one day around a conference table with Mexico and our other good neighbors, to talk to and with them about a just and lasting peace for all the world, they may have no cause to mistrust our sincerity.

9-23-54 Dedication of Pump Plant

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WELL, JOE, I'M TOO MUCH CHOKED UP TO MAKE A SPEECH. BUT, I'VE JOTTED DOWN A FEW NOTES.

I SINCERELY HOPE THAT WHAT FEW WORDS I HAVE TO SAY WILL REFLECT - IN SOME MEASURE - MY HUMBLE APPRECIATION OF THIS HONOR. IN ACCEPTING THIS HONOR I DO SO ONLY TO SHARE IT WITH ALL OF THE OTHER MEN AND WOMEN WHO WORKED SHOULDER TO SHOULDER TO MAKE POSSIBLE THIS GREAT COLORADO RIVER AQUEDUCT SYSTEM.

WHAT HAS BEEN DONE HERE SHOULD SERVE AS A SYMBOL OF WHAT HAS YET TO BE DONE IN BEHALF OF GENERATIONS TO COME. IN THE NAME OF ALL OF THOSE WHO HAVE WORKED - AND ARE STILL WORKING - ON THIS VITALLY IMPORTANT JOB - I THANK YOU.